



Fighting corruption

Jamaican professor Dr. Trevor Munroe speaking to the audience at the Schomburg Center in Harlem on Nov. 17. See story on page 14.

Caribbean International Network

TRADE DISPUTE LINGERS

Jamaica urged to stay in CARICOM family

By Bert Wilkinson

A leading Caribbean brain and politician has thrown his weight behind a growing lobby of regional experts urging Jamaica to continue being an influential member of the Caribbean Community rather than looking north to other nations such as Cuba as its major trading partner.

Owen Arthur, a former prime minister of Barbados and the man many credited with pulling the trading aspects of the single market together, spent time in Jamaica in the past week trying to encourage Jamaican government and

business leaders to remain hard-nosed about their commitment to CARICOM largely because its presence is so important to the integration movement.

Jamaican authorities and private sector officials have in recent years complained bitterly about the rules pertaining to the single trading market as being unfair and stacked against Jamaica as products from oil and gas-rich Trinidad have flooded its market while impediments and restrictions were placed on Jamaican exports to Trinidad.

Continued on Page 1

Calls to dump Bannon from White House team

By Nelson A. King

Brooklyn Rep. Yvette D. Clarke (D-9th) has joined 168 members of the United States House of Representatives in urging President-Elect Donald Trump to remove White nationalist sympathizer Steve

Bannon from his White House team.

"I am deeply concerned about the appointment of Stephen K. Bannon as chief strategist and senior counselor to President-Elect Donald J. Trump," Clarke told

Caribbean Life on Thursday. "Mr. Bannon's longtime association with white nationalist, xenophobic, and anti-women politics has raised serious concerns that he will use his position in the federal govern-

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26 honored at Caribbean Impact Awards

By Alexandra Simon

They were the most impactful.

The second annual Caribbean Impact Awards honored 26 persons this year, men, women, young, and old, hailing from all over the Caribbean at Paradise Caterers in Gravesend on Nov. 17. The ceremony honors Caribbean Americans who are influential forces in their communities and recognizes their standout hard work.

Many of the honorees held various titles, from chefs, church leaders, educators, and entrepreneurs came with their friends and family to accept their honors. One honoree was thrilled about his nomination and said the award recognized more than his business skills but the neighborhood he serves.

"I want to thank Caribbean Life for this great honor and not for a second do I think they're just honoring me," said Andrew Walcott, founder and CEO of Fusion East. "I think they're honoring what we're doing in the East New York community."

The Caribbean Impact Awards celebrate Caribbean-born and Americans of Caribbean descent who are not only achieving greatness in their professions, but also giving back to their community, said associate publisher Ralph D'Onofrio.

Caribbean Life is more than just a newspaper, it is an organization which encourages Caribbean-Americans to strive to their best potential said master of ceremony and award-winning Caribbean Life journalist, Nelson A. King.

"Sometimes people work hard and no one remembers them," he said. "We are different from other publications because the paper is not just about a business — the paper cares about the community and the people, and it encourages others to keep working because they'll know somebody is looking."

With their loved ones celebrating with them, King said the support shown to the honorees means more award ceremonies to come.

"The audience were very fantastic and bubbling with enthusiasm," he said. "There was no sign of boredom — they wanted to be there and really celebrating and that's a good sign for Caribbean Life and the impact awards."



Honoree Judith Lovell, who is of Trinidadian and Jamaican descent, talks with guests as she accepts her Caribbean Impact Award.

Photo by Jordan Rathkopf



From left, Marlon Peterson, Patrick Buddington, Rev. Dionne P. Boissiere, Cindy Similien-Johnson, Ricot Dupuy, Pastor Anthony Quintyne, and Lindiwe Kamau were several of the 25 honorees of the 2016 Impact Awards feted at a gala hosted by Caribbean Life at Paradise Catering Hall on Nov. 17.

Photo by Jordan Rathkopf



Community News Group president and publisher Jennifer Goodstein starts the ceremony.

Photo by Jordan Rathkopf



Rev. Terry Lee talks to guests after receiving his Caribbean Impact Award. The Jamaican-born reverend heads By Ways and Hedges Youth Ministry.

Photo by Jordan Rathkopf



Honoree Marlon Peterson smiles with his girlfriend at the ceremony.

Photo by Jordan Rathkopf



Honoree Jolander Headley, center, founder and CEO of Joe's Music Store and Joe's Music Center and Performing Arts Inc., with her award in hand.

Photo by Jordan Rathkopf



Honoree Dr. Joan Grant-Boyd, right, is presented an award.

Photo by Jordan Rathkopf

Antigua

There has been a decrease in applications for Citizenship by Investment Program (CIP) in Antigua and Barbuda.

Lennox Weston, minister of state in the Ministry of Finance said this can be attributed to a decrease in demand for the program but he remains optimistic that it can change in the future.

There are reports that the slowdown is also in St. Kitts and Nevis and other territories.

Weston said there may have been a 10 percent decline, "we project that we may have a 10-15 percent reduction from last year when we had EC\$100 million from it; we may end up with EC\$75 million, EC\$80 million or EC\$85 million."

The minister said the projections do not spell disaster for the economy since there are international factors that could result in growth adding that marketing of the desirability of the Antiguan and Barbudan passport should be revised given that the world's CIP market is large enough.

Weston admitted that the decline has had an impact on some developments as several projects are heavily dependent on CIP revenue.



Haitians vote for president

Haiti's former President Jean-Bertrand Aristide cast his ballot at a polling station while his wife Mildred, center, stands next to him and presidential candidate Maryse Narcisse, in red, during presidential elections in Tabarre, suburb of Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Sunday, Nov. 20, 2016.

Associated Press / Dieu Nalio Chery

Dominica

A British cruise ship passenger was killed and nine others injured after their tour bus crashed on the island of Dominica.

The visitors were on a shore excursion when the bus collided with another vehicle.

The passengers had been on board the P&O Cruises ship Azura, which had sailed from Southampton, Hampshire, England on Oct. 28.

All the injured passengers were also British.

Police investigators say the tourists were returning to the ship after an excursion to the Emerald Pool beauty spot when the collision occurred.

The bus was transporting 12 passengers including 10 guests from the



Azura.

The tourists had already stopped off the Azores in the mid-Atlantic and the islands of St. Maarten and St. Lucia.

After Dominica, the ship is believed to have sailed to Grenada and Barbados.

Guyana

Security officers recently conducted "Operation Safe Guard" at the Georgetown and New Amsterdam prisons and seized a large quantity of contraband items.

Police said that during the surprise search of the Georgetown Prison they found 21 improvised weapons and knives, 20 razor blades, 500 grams of marijuana, 22 cellular phones and five gallons of homemade wine, along with several other banned items.

Authorities say a lesser number of

the contraband items were found at the New Amsterdam Prison.

Security officials expressed concern that the Georgetown Prison was last searched on Sept. 23 and this means the items were smuggled into the jail over the past two months.

Following this haul, the government said it would work closely with the Guyana Prison Service and the Joint Services to address ongoing security breaches at the correctional facilities.



Jamaica

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) recently approved a US\$1.6 billion stand-by arrangement for Jamaica to support its continued economic reform agenda.

Jamaican officials have indicated they will treat the arrangement as precautionary, and do not intend to draw the new stand-by arrangement unless exogenous shocks generate an actual balance of payments need.

The IMF board approval will make about US\$411.9 million available and the remainder in six tranches upon completion of semi-annual program reviews.

Tao Zhang, deputy managing director and acting chair of the IMF said Jamaica has established a commendable track record of program ownership and implementation under the extended fund facility (EFF), macroeconomic stability has been entrenched, evidenced by low inflation, the build-up of foreign currency reserves and a decline in the current deficit.

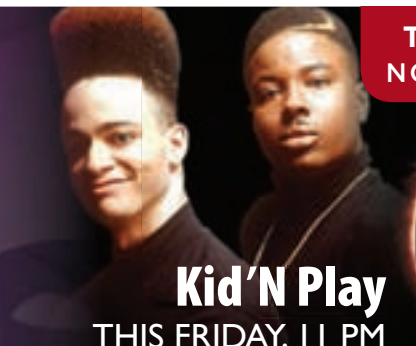


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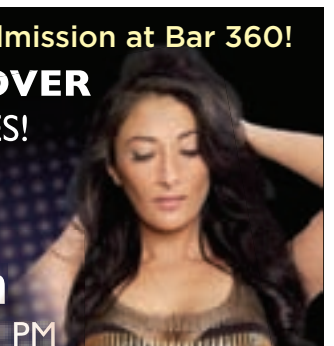
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CARICOM

Continued from Page 1

the umbrella Private Sector Commission to urge islanders to boycott goods from Trinidad.

So bitter and pervasive is the feeling among private sector officials and many in the cabinet and administration of Prime Minister Andrew Holness that the head of government has established a commission to study and determine what actual benefits Jamaican gets from being a member of the group of 15 nations from Suriname on mainland South America to Belize in Central.

Arthur has even suggested that Jamaica should follow Barbados and become a full member of the umbrella, Trinidad-based Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ) and use it to settle trade and other disputes rather than harp about unfair trading rules.

"To secure such relief, the full extent of such unfair practices need to be fully documented and presented to the appropriate agencies of CARICOM, including the CCJ," Arthur told a panel discussion in Jamaica. "There is a very strong and compelling case for Jamaica to help to strengthen the Caribbean Single Market and Economy in its capacity as the best preferential market for the respective CARICOM states and to give strong and decisive leadership to the specific role that has been assigned to Jamaica in respect of regional trade diplomacy."

This is not the first time that Jamaica,



Former Prime Minister of Barbados
Owen Arthur.

Associated Press / Martin Cleaver

geographically way to the north in the community, has felt it necessary to look to nations nearer to it than those below it.

When an effort was made to form the West Indian Federation in 1958-62, Jamaican leaders at the time had organized a referendum to determine whether to continue being a member given the haggling about policies and the cumbersome nature of a single body governing so many different territories at one time. The vote to leave was overwhelming leading to the demise of the federation as Eric Williams of Trinidad reasoned that one from 10 left zero so it was better to collapse the federation as it did.

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Students: Don't shun troublemakers, welcome them to J'ouvert

By Alexandra Simon

The Caribbean community should try to stop the bloodshed at J'ouvert by inviting troublemakers into the heart of the pre-dawn parade, instead of relying on police to root them out or blaming outsiders, said a Brooklyn College student leader at a panel discussion about the vibrant but violence-plagued morning carnival at the school on Nov. 3.

"We should welcome them to be grand marshals," said Floyd Jarvis, president and coordinator of the Black and Latino Male Initiative at the college. "People on the panel were quick to shun them, quick to say they are not part of the parade or the community, but this is their community too and it's their kids — the first, second, and third generation Caribbean-Americans, not African-Americans."

The panel of community members, students, and local officials discussed the state of the annual parade, its history, and the violence at this year's fest that marred the public perception of the gathering.

Gunmen shot four people and killed two at this year's J'ouvert, sparking demands that the city must ban the three-decade-old street fest in the future.

Panelists Councilman Jumaane Williams (D-East Flatbush) and J'ouvert International president Yvette Rennie spoke against ending the Trinidadian-



Floyd Jarvis, president and coordinator of the Black and Latino Male Initiative at the college, spoke about welcoming youth and educating them about J'ouvert, instead of shunning them.

Floyd Jarvis

inspired fete. They say the event is marred by the same gun violence that affects the local community 365 days a year, with Rennie noting that one of the local politicians calling for its cancellation had a shooting in his district just days after J'ouvert.

"He should shut his office down," she said.

Jarvis agrees and claims those proposing a ban are just not part of the Caribbean community and don't understand its culture.

"Most of the people calling for cancellation

are non-West Indians and non-Brooklynites, and people who don't see the intrinsic value in it," he said.

He believes the best solution to the violence is for the parade's leaders to do outreach into the local community, educating and inviting the youth to take part.

But it must be done without any police involvement, because younger generations won't respond well to law enforcement — especially given J'ouvert's anti-establishment origins of encouraging self-expression and ancestral pride, said Jarvis.

"It should be officials and community leaders, absent of clergy and law enforcement," he said. "These two groups come with a badge of respectability politics and law and order that does not appeal to many Caribbean youth as well as the essence of J'ouvert."

Educate teenage mothers to succeed

By Tangerine Clarke

The 2016 State of the World Population report which was launched recently, received swift reaction from First Lady of Guyana, Mrs. Sandra Granger, who expressed concern for the high rate of teenage pregnancy in the Republic and called for these mothers to be equipped with tools to succeed.

Granger said teenage mothers must be given the opportunity to become agents of positive change in their communities, after the report was introduced to Guyana collaboratively by the

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the Office of the First Lady and the Ministry of Social Protection.

Under the theme "Investing in 10-year-old girls is the key to sustainable development," Granger stressed that teenage pregnancy impacts the development of health, education, social and economic well-being of adolescent girls according to the Government Information Agency, (GIA).

Granger is passionate about investing in the re-integration of young mothers into society for

them to become productive adults. She said it is a matter of greater concern that Guyana has the highest rate of teenage pregnancy in the Commonwealth Caribbean.

She is concerned that young girls are at grave risk of cervical cancer, the second leading cause of cancer related deaths in Guyana, in addition to other sexual transmitted infections and diseases, even though there is a reported decline in HIV/AIDS, and a zero rate of mother-to-child transmission of the disease in CARICOM countries.

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Anyone wishing to learn more about this new FDA approved solution to back pain or to set up an appointment for a free consultation call Dr. Keller's office at 718-234-6207 or visit **Brooklyn Spine Center**, 5911 16th Ave., Brooklyn, New York 11204. Brooklynspinecenter.com.

Trump – The Symptom



Paloma Durán.
Paloma Durán / UNDP

By Baher Kamal

ROME, Nov 11 2016 (IPS) - The electoral victory of U.S. Republican Donald Trump — many have said — is an alarming signal that heralds new, difficult times. Maybe. Anyway, this victory could — and should — be seen as a symptom not as a disease.

Such disease consists of a widespread malaise, the feeling of frustration and even oppression that the majority of citizens shelter in their hearts and minds worldwide. Let alone the syndrome of unrestricted fear of everything, which has been imposed on everyone.

Fear of the so-called economic crisis that the private banking and financial sectors have created in 2007.

Fear of lay people to lose their jobs and thus accepting unacceptable working conditions.

Fear of losing their houses, new cars, latest model smartphones, which they still owe to the banks.

Fear of migrants taking

their jobs and leaving them in misery.

Fear of Muslim refugees coming to destroy their Western Christian “civilisation”.

Fear of cold wars promoted by the weapons business.

Fear, fear, fear.

This atmosphere of dominating fear has led to the rise of two opposite “political” trends — a “populist left,” like the case of Syriza in Greece and Unidos-Podemos in Spain.

And a “populist right,” such as the National Front in France, the Freedom Front in Austria, the Golden Dawn in Greece, and similar movements in Germany, The Netherlands, Hungary and even the Scandinavian countries. Now, again, also in the United States.

None of these is rigorously political or ideological and none is either purely “left” or purely “right.” These are reactions, movements and voices that sit in a glowingly empty political space.

Anyway, it is not only about just fear — it is also about a growing wave of violent extremism. Just consider the case of the unstoppable “religious” terrorism.

Meanwhile, the private financial and banking systems, which have created the on-going artificial crisis, have benefited of huge bailouts — over 5 trillion dollars paid by those very same lay citizens — to protect their pundits from the consequences of the debacle they have created.

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SDGs: Making the Universal Agenda truly universal

By Paloma Durán

Paloma Durán is director of the Sustainable Development Goals Fund (SDG Fund).

NEW YORK, Nov. 17, 2016 (IPS) - One of the key features of the 2030 Agenda which the United Nations and member states identified in the lead up to the SDG agreement was the principle of universality.

After managing to get the pivotal agreement on the global framework for the new Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) agreed upon last year, it is now critical to continue this momentum and understand the opportunities and challenges it creates for the private sector as partners in sustainable development efforts.

Building on our interest to tip the scales and generate greater private sector engagement, the UN Sustainable Development Goals Fund (SDG Fund) in collaboration with its Private Sector Advisory Group and the Global Compact examined these questions through a new report, Universality and the SDGs: A Business Perspective. The report, launched last week highlights varied perspectives from both large and small companies working to understand the commonality of the new development agenda.

Universality in this context is defined by the UN as “applicable to all countries, while taking into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development that respect national policies and principles.” Thus the notion of Universality also envisions

“applicable to all countries, while taking into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development that respect national policies and principles.”

that everyone has a role to play in development and poverty alleviation efforts framing the development agenda.

The business community has, and continues to be deemed an important partner for us, serving as a critical economic engine and multiplier to catalyze economic and social development programs in our 23 joint programs around the world. The task at hand is to now reinforce this commitment and ensure that companies of all sizes and sectors are properly aware of the new SDGs.

To this end, the outcomes of the report were based on a year-long series of workshops and dialogues and reflected input from over 100 firms across a variety of regions and industry sectors. These findings stemming from countless interviews and in-depth questions were not unexpected and mainly in-line with our experience at the SDG Fund. We found that companies were keen to address the new set of goals which they viewed as critical to their core business activities, but many firms still struggled to fully understand the depth of the goals.

The report also mirrored

some of our unique experience working with the private sector. For example, while many firms are already working in areas linked to the SDGs, this work is not always associated with the same “UN” or development language. In fact, many companies articulate the “global goals” using other mechanisms, including using other metrics or reporting based on environmental, social and corporate governance (ESG) indicators or other industry standards.

The new report offers some other useful findings. First, companies both small and large are increasingly aware of the concept of the SDGs, but many firms did not fully grasp the intricacies of the SDGs in context of their work or internal operations.

In addition, although many companies find a clear and added value to framing sustainability initiatives through the SDGs which provide a unified set of globally accepted principles — many companies are still accustomed to working within the confines of their philanthropic and CSR programs.

Despite a strong willingness to embrace the SDGs, many companies are exploring how to best integrate the SDGs into their work. But perhaps the most compelling case for the SDG Fund’s continued efforts to engage companies in a “co-design, co-invest and co-implement policy” is that the private sector remains eager to work on global challenges.

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Millions to march in presidential protests

Nationally organized civil rights, community and gender-based organizations have already put the 45th president of the United States on notice that they intend to protest his inauguration next year.

Al Sharpton, president of National Action Network issued a direct message to President-elect Donald J. Trump saying "We're Ready...We will not be moved."

The activist preacher and television commentator told his national membership headquarters in Harlem that on Jan. 14, 2017 he will lead thousands to Washington, D.C. for a protest rally to demonstrate the election of the presumed racist and sexist New York real estate magnate.

Six days before Donald Trump swears allegiance to representing all Americans by placing his hand on the Bible, Sharpton and busloads of NAN supporters from all across the nation will converge on the nation's capitol to exercise opposition to his toxic campaign rhetoric and perceived divisive, presidential decisions.

"We will rally and put him



Inside Life

By Vinette K. Pryce

(and the nation) on notice that there are some things that will not be changed no matter who is president and what party dominates the House and Senate.”

This is not the first time, Sharpton has spearheaded a protest rally in the District, along with thousands he has led numerous marches to the attorney general's office and other significant federal buildings to chorus Dr. King's trademark Civil Rights hymn "We Shall Overcome."

This time, the theme will be “We Shall Not Be Moved,” coined by a song of resistance often recanted with defiance to injustice and popularly echoed by Mavis Staples, Bob Dylan, Joan Baez, Peter, Paul & Mary and progressive, folk artists devoted to change.

“Protecting the civil rights of citizens and the voting rights of people that have been

excluded, providing health care for all Americans and equal opportunity should supersede any of the beltway partisan fights that we are inevitably headed into.”

The protest will coincide with the commemoration of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.

"Some have given their lives and others dedicated their lives to try to make Dr. King's dream a reality, and now they have added to that mission by preserving the legacy of President Obama. Groups come and go, elections come and go, but some things must remain constant and non-negotiable."

"We are prepared to fight because we have spent most of our lives fighting this before and won," Sharpton added.

He cited decades-old feuds dating back to the '80s when Trump's public opinions clashed with members of the



Reverend Al Sharpton addresses the congregation at South L.A.'s Second Baptist Church in support of 'Yes on 61,' a November California ballot measure to lower drug prices, as part of 'Your Vote is Your Voice,' a town hall and church visits on Sunday, Oct. 30, 2016 in Los Angeles.

Dan Steinberg / Associated Press images for AIDS Healthcare Foundation

Black community.

One of the most significant he explained “while we were working to ensure the presumption of innocence of five Black and Latino men falsely accused of the rape of a white female jogger in Central Park, Trump

was busy buying full-page ads in several major newspapers calling for their execution.”

All the accused — who were convicted while teenaged youths — were acquitted and compensated for the wrongful

Continued on Page 22

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TAKE A BREAK FROM THE EXPECTED.



Difficult times

Continued from page 10

Also meanwhile, lay citizens are forced to spend 1.7 trillion dollars a year on weapons, with more, much more to come as the wave of fake tensions rise between the West, mainly the U.S., and Russia, China, etc.

Meantime, some questions remain:

— Will president Trump fulfill or meet Trump-candidate electoral promises?

These include the deportation of 11 million undocumented people; the construction of a big wall along the US border with Mexico; the prohibition of Muslims entering the United States; all with the consequent rise or wave of xenophobia and hatred?

They also include the demolition of outgoing president Barack Obama health care system; keeping Guantanamo open and a very long list of etceteras.

— Will the new administration impose higher customs tariffs on imported foreign products; force the European —and other “allies” to pay more, much more, to their sort of “ponce” to continue protecting them?

—Will the new White House occupier dismantle the United Nations Organisations and

along with it the multilateral aid system? Will he “cancel” (his words) the Paris climate agreement? And cut the US contribution to the UN? How long —or short — will it take the United Kingdom and Europe to follow?

— Will Trump presidency reduce taxes on big corporations, from the current average 35 per cent to just 15 per cent? If so, who will cover this 20 per cent gap?

— Will the new administration impose a tougher protectionist policy that would end up creating higher inflation and a bigger public deficit, this leading to a new, great recession worldwide?

— Will Trump presidency declare open commercial and political war on giant China, this transforming the on-going small, partial wars into a big nuclear one?

— Will he go further smashing human rights and dismantling the painfully achieved progress in the field of gender equality and social equality?

Common-sense would advise that candidate Trump, on taking office, will very carefully listen to the “pundits”, those really in charge—the big business, be it weapons, oil, commodities, etc.

Universal principles

Continued from page 10

Companies continue to express their desire to be brought into the process to build innovative and robust multi-stakeholder partnerships at the local level and very often with UN partners.

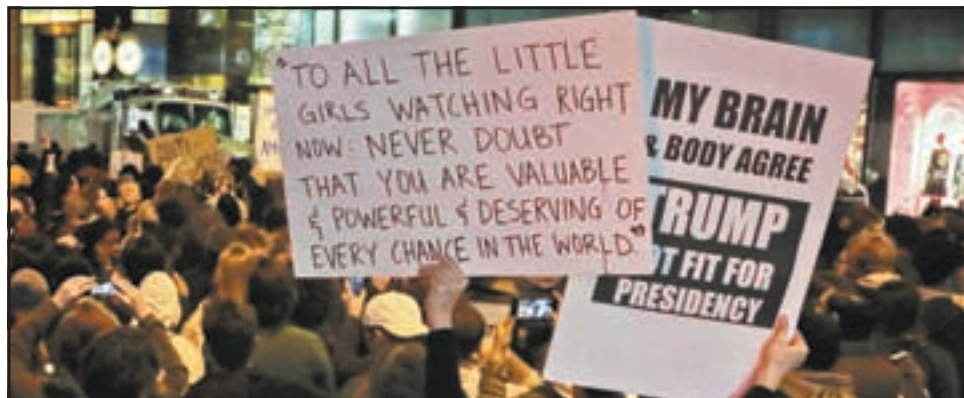
Undoubtedly, with the one-year anniversary of the 2030 agenda approaching in January, this new report reminds us that the UN can and should play a more active role in educating and informing companies on the “universal” dimensions of the SDGs.

It is also important to continue to translate the new agenda into language and simplified reporting metrics that are palatable for businesses of all sizes — all of which means greater education on how companies can integrate the SDGs in their value chains, disseminate acces-

sible resources and tools to promote learning, and support implementation and alignment across sectors.

In the end, the universality principle embedded in the SDGs provides a clear invitation for action and alignment to advance the new development agenda.

We hope to continue to raise public awareness and foster the much needed dialogue and advocacy required to encourage business to support the SDGs. In addition, our report highlights additional information on the ongoing work of the SDG Fund, including Private Sector Advisory Group case studies that continue to build the case for greater engagement in development, especially across sectors and with welcome actors like the private sector.



Protesters gather on Fifth Avenue outside Trump Tower, Wednesday, Nov. 9, 2016, in New York, in opposition of Donald Trump's presidential election victory.

Associated Press / Julie Jacobson



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Jamaican Diaspora ask to help fight corruption

By Dawn Plummer

The island of Jamaica is now confronted with the issue of corruption, a dilemma that the society has never seen before. This predicament is coming from outside as well as inside forces. Against this quandary of disorder, Professor at the University of the West Indies, Dr. Trevor Munroe established the National Integrity Action, (NIA), in 2011 as an anti-corruption local organization to help combat the surge of this plight.

Dr. Munroe as the executive director of the NIA is at the helm of identifying areas to help eliminate the soaring problem as well as to find areas of conflict and mismanagement that the NIA can expose to the public. The goal is to diminish this social plague in the society. As the featured speaker at the 12th Annual Caribbean Lecture Series at the Schomburg Center in Harlem, last

Thursday, Nov. 17, Dr. Munroe described the ill-effects that corruption is having and will have on the Jamaican society if not stopped.

The audience, overwhelming Jamaicans, coherently gasped as Professor Munroe explained the devastation this has had on the Jamaican society. Munroe noted that the corruption has caused extensive damage to the public and their view of public management. "It is imperative that we get commitment from officials to defeat corruption. It hurts the poor tremendously. As this has been an illicit gain at the expense of the public," the NIA executive said.

According to Dr. Munroe, the corruption has created economic hardship affecting the entire society to thrive. "It is a threat to democracy and it undermines the development of the Jamaican society," Munroe continued, "There is an urgency to tackle

this mode as the corruption prevents competitiveness in the market and prevent businesses from excelling."

In addition, Professor Munroe also noted that there are effects including the lack of trust and confidence that now prevails in the justice system. In this regard, he called for stiffer legislation to strengthen the anti-corruption drive. He also called for more transparency from politicians and the public officials. "Too much money is being lost which could have gone to public programs, too many connections to criminals," Munroe added.

Regarding tax evasion, Professor Munroe called for laws to be activated and have individuals be accountable for avoiding tax rules. "Reorganize youths, strengthen parenting skills and develop social organizations that can help identify the corruption," the executive director suggested. He told the audience that people



Dr. Trevor Munroe speaking to the audience at the Schomburg Center in Harlem on Nov 17.

ple should not be afraid to speak out on issues of corruption in the society. "We have been able to identify some corruption by bringing awareness to the public through television ads, documentaries and bill boards," Munroe stated.

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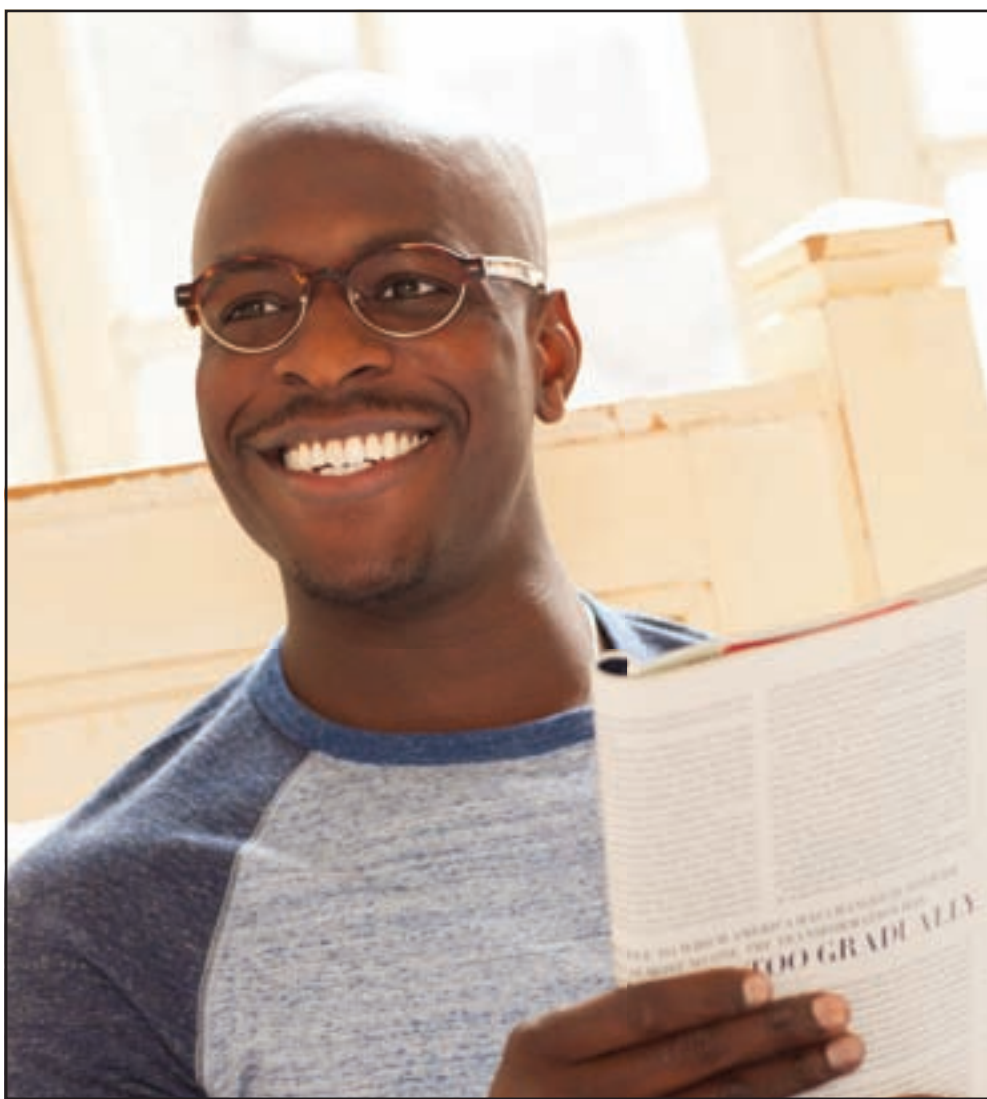
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Our Perspective

Moving Forward

By Stuart Appelbaum, President,
Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union,
RWDSU, UFCW

We've just been through what has been the most divisive, exhausting, and unsettling presidential election in our lifetime. Many people – especially immigrants – are apprehensive or even terrified. Anti-Black, anti-Muslim, and anti-Semitic incidents are happening online, in schools, and workplaces, and on the streets with more frequency. Swastikas and Nazi graffiti have appeared on more college campuses and storefronts. The entire world is worried.

We are facing incredible challenges, but we cannot succumb to pessimism or despair. If we do, the worst of what this election has unleashed will be normalized and grow in power. Instead, we must recommit ourselves to strengthening our movement for social and economic justice and defeating the forces of hatred and bigotry in our society.

It will take hard work, meaningful dialogue, and sustained action to build a country that is fairer and better for all working people, especially those who have been left behind and harmed by globalization and the current economic order. Many immigrant workers, white workers, women and people of color feel trapped in an economy that fails them and only seems to reward those at the very top.

Yet too often working people today who share common interests but come from different backgrounds speak past each other, not to each other. We must bring working people together across their differences and help them understand their common interests and why it's so crucial to fight and organize as a unified twenty-first century labor movement. And we have to press our political leaders and representatives – not only Republicans but also Democrats – that they must improve economic fairness, close the widening economic gap, improve the job prospects of working people, and make it easier for unions to organize so they can represent their members in the halls of power and influence.

We have done it before, and now we must now do it again.

None of us have all the answers. But we do know that it is a different era, and there are both new challenges and new opportunities for connection that didn't exist in previous decades.

Together, we must create new ways of bringing working people together, and new ways of showing those who may be misguided, angry, and misinformed that racism and prejudice are not the way forward, that a growing economic gap is not the way forward. We must transform and rebuild our country from within and bring all communities into a larger progressive movement that lifts up all working people: A larger progressive movement that takes the energy and learns the lessons from the Occupy Movement and Black Lives Matter and the Sanders campaign and the Fight for Fifteen. A larger progressive movement that is inclusive and diverse.

And we must remind ourselves over and over again what Dr. King so eloquently taught us: The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends towards justice.



www.rwdsu.org

Antigua government revokes knighthoods

By Azad Ali

The Antigua & Barbuda government has revoked two of the knighthoods which it bestowed on two members of a delegation of the Sacred Military Constantinian Order of St. George, citing the need to "do a more detailed due diligence."

The United Kingdom based newspaper "The Mail" said Governor General Sir Rodney Williams rescinded the honors bestowed on Nadhimi Auchi and Spas Roussev back in May this year.

A letter to Auchi, dated May 25, 2016, states; "As Grand Master of the Honors, I am hereby withdrawing the honors bestowed upon you (to be a Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of the Nation) until further notice."

Sir Rodney stated that the revocation was done, "after consultations with the prime minister" as laid out in Section 16 (of Statutory Instrument No 49 (of) 1999, National Honors (Most Distinguished Order of the Nation).

The reason stated in the letter was "some information has come to our attention suggesting that we do a more detailed due diligence on the two persons on whom honors were bestowed on Nov. 2, 2014."

A similar letter signed by Sir Rodney and also dated May 25 was sent to Spas Roussev.

Both Roussev and Auchi were members of the delegation headed by Sir Anthony Bailey who was also knighted on Nov. 2, 2014.

Sir Anthony, who heads the Sacred Military Constantinian Order of St. George, has been the subject of numerous allegations in the British media surrounding allegations that he and his delegation received the awards in exchange for money.

In June this year, Sir Anthony defended his citizenship and contribution to Antigua and Barbuda.

Sir Anthony said he obtained his



Antigua and Barbuda Governor General Sir Rodney Williams.

Antigua & Barbuda citizenship early last year when he was appointed as a special economic envoy of Antigua and Barbuda to the States of the European Union (EU).

According to Sir Anthony, his Constantinian order donated \$500,000 to assist with restoration work of the Anglican Cathedral and the Hatton Multipurpose Facility in Antigua.

The United Kingdom's Daily Mail online publication reported that officials at Buckingham Palace were angered by Bailey's insistence on being referred to as "Sir."

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Antigua prime minister calls for intervention on climate change

By Nelson A. King

Antigua and Barbuda Prime Minister Gaston Browne has called on all government and special groupings in the United Nations to commence discussions with the incoming Donald Trump Administration of the United States on climate change.

"If the United States waivers in its current leadership on climate change, or if it withdraws from its commitments, a chain reaction will be triggered, that will leave the Agreement in tatters, and the world in peril," said Browne in addressing at a High-Level meeting of the 22nd Session of the Conference of Parties (COP22) in Morocco on Wednesday.

According to an Antigua and Barbuda government statement, Browne was making reference to the uncertainty of President-Elect of the United States Donald Trump's position on climate change, which were highly discussed during the lead-up to the Nov. 8 elec-

tions in the United States.

"We (the Caribbean) know that global warming, sea-level rise, extreme drought and stronger cyclones, are daggers at the heart of our existence," the Antiguan leader said.

"For us, '1.5 to stay alive' is not a frivolous slogan; it is a constant reminder that, if temperatures continue to rise, our countries will suffer insurmountable losses," he warned. "In fact, many small island states will disappear beneath the sea. That is the stark reality facing small island states."

"While my government offers congratulations to the United States President-elect, Donald Trump, and pledges our resolve to work co-operatively with his administration, we are, however, aware that he remains unconvinced of climate change," Browne continued. "Those of us from small states live with a different reality. We hope it is also a warning to the world's most developed nations that the tides of the

world's climate will also be battering their most secure bastions.

"In this connection, I call on all governments to begin early conversations with appointees to Mr. Trump's administration," he said. "If the United States waivers in its current leadership on climate change, or if it withdraws from its commitments, a chain reaction will be triggered, that will leave the Agreement in tatters, and the world in peril. It is a real danger that must be addressed with urgency."

Therefore, Browne called on special groupings within the United Nations, such as AOSIS, to mount urgently a collaborative effort to lay out the dangers that confront the globe to the incoming new United States administration.

On a wider point, Browne emphasized that, to fulfill the commitments of the universal Climate Change Agreement, the resources of the Global Environmental Fund and the Green Cli-



Antigua Prime Minister Gaston Browne addressing high-level conference on Climate Change in Morocco.
Government of Antigua

mate Fund must be replenished.

He also said that adaptation financing must be significantly increased to balance global priorities in line with the Agreement.

The prime minister said average global temperatures have already increased 1 degree Celsius above pre-industrial levels, stating: "We must collectively act now to protect our planet."

"If the global community does not act decisively to curb emissions, it is likely that every eco-

system across the planet will fundamentally change in our lifetimes," he cautioned. "Therefore, the problem has all the urgency of now."

"The bell may be tolling loudly for small islands that are innocent victims of the profligacy of others, but it is also tolling for all nations," Browne said. "Let us recommit ourselves to immediate collective action, in saving our planet."

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or primary care setting are much more expensive, making an unnecessary trip to the emergency room hard on both one's schedule and wallet.

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cess to the right type of care in the right setting, when they need it most" states Melissa Cohen, Vice President of Marketing for ModernMD. For example, if you or your children are experiencing stomach, ear or throat pain, have burned or cut yourself while cooking, or have a cough or headache that just won't quit urgent care can provide the treatment you need quickly and cost effectively.

For routine check-ups, immunizations and the management of ongoing conditions such as diabetes or high blood pressure, you're best off visiting your primary care physician, who knows you and your medical history best. "We want our patients to maintain a relationship with their primary care doctor and not only forward your visit report for follow up, but refer our pa-

tients to local providers for continuing care" states Cohen. "It's ModernMD's goal to bridge the gap between your primary care physician and the emergency room, offering immediate care when you can't get an appointment with your doctor, but do not need advanced emergency services."

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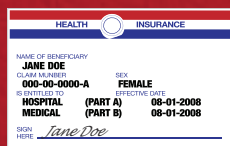


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CARIBBEAN ROUNDUP

Continued from page 4

He noted that fiscal discipline and proactive debt management have helped place public debt on a downward trajectory.

Still, he said, growth is low, poverty and unemployment is high and crime and security challenges impose a serious drag on growth.

St. Lucia

The St. Lucia Ministry of Health and Wellness and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) recently held a Zika Sensitization Workshop at the National Mental Wellness Center to train participants in risk communication and reduce the impact of the Zika virus on the population.

In a press release Dr. Sharon Belmar-George said the participants of the workshop included representatives of town and village councils, social workers and staff of the Ministry of Health and Wellness.

Dr. George said PAHO has been very supportive in the fight against Zika and the other vector borne diseases which have affected St. Lucia.

Valerie Beech-Horne, the PAHO representative in St. Lucia said it was important to adopt a multi sectoral approach in combating the virus.

PAHO is very concerned about the impact of the disease on its member states, especially in the Eastern Caribbean.



St. Vincent

Police in St. Vincent and the Grenadines have detained an 18-year-old suspect in connection with two of the murder of four persons, among them a mother and son.

The 80-year-old mother and her 40-year-old son were killed in their New Montrose House, a stone throw from the official residence of Prime Minister Dr. Ralph Gonsalves, who was out of the country and the Old



Montrose Police Station.

Assistant Superintendent of Police Clauston Francis told the media that the police have detained one suspect in relation to at least two of the murders.

He said the body of Ronald Israel was found in the porch of the house where he lives with his mother, Avis Israel, with his head smashed in.

Israel (Avis) was found dead in a bedroom with similar injuries.

Police were also investigating the killing of Pamela Williams, 50, which occurred at her home in Kingstown Park, a community just outside the capital.

Another man identified as Nicholas Layne, 30, died of head injuries in the Coco area of Campden Park, a community West of Kingstown.

Trinidad

The rate of unemployment in Trinidad and Tobago has increased to 4.4 percent in the second quarter of this year from 3.8 percent in the first quarter of 2016, according to data released by the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago (CBTT).

The bank said conditions in the labor market continue to worsen due to economic challenges, the bank said in its latest Monetary Policy Report.

The change in the unemployment rate between June 2015 and June 2016 reflected an "increase of 16,200 in the number of people who are unable to find work and departure of 8,200 from the labor force".

But the report noted that job openings for low-skilled workers remained considerable.

The CBTT noted that more males suffered job losses during the second quarter of 2016 than females with an unemployment rate at 4.1 percent.

With respect to job losses, the Bank noted that the sectors most affected were distribution (13,000 people), construction (10,000) and agriculture (1,900).

— compiled by Azad Ali



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From left, moderator Jonathan Locke, Deputy Consul General Jacqueline Hamer, Consul General, Barbara Atherly, and Consular Beverley McDonald.
Photo by Tangerine Clarke

Guyanese offer to share skills

By Tangerine Clarke

Guyanese-born, Roxanne Persaud, senator of the 19th Senatorial district in Brooklyn, on Friday, Nov. 11, encouraged nationals to work with the Guyana Consulate, New York, and implored them (nationals) to refrain from negative feedback, stating, “for us to grow as Guyanese, we must support the staff of the consulate, to better serve the community.”

Persaud, who was recently elected to serve a full term in the senate, added, “We will not be acknowledged as a people, if we don’t ‘toot’ our own horn in a positive way.” She called on compatriots to continue to dialogue with the consulate.

Senator Persaud made these remarks at the consulate’s first town hall meeting in Brooklyn that was hosted at the Woodbine Banquet Ballroom, and where, newly appointed Consul General, Hon. Barbara Atherly was formally introduced to the community.

Deputy Consul General Jacqueline Hamer and Consular Beverly McDonald joined CG Atherly to address several concerns raised by expats, that included professionals seeking information on how they could return to their homeland to share their skills, towards Guyana’s development.

Hamer, who runs the operations of the consulate and make recommendations, began an outreach program which takes consular services to the elderly and bedridden. To date, the outreach has serviced citizens in Queens, the Bronx, Connecticut, Schenectady and Brooklyn.

Noting that Guyanese are one of the largest immigrant groups in the US totaling some 400,000 documented and undocumented persons, CG Atherly, encouraged expats to become skilled in preparation for Guyana’s predicted oil sector workforce.

Business helps small schools with graduation services

By Alexandra Simon

Outside of education, yearbook creation may seem like something that comes with graduating. But it is a big industry an East Flatbush business owner is breaking into, while also looking out for the scholastic needs of small and low-income schools.

A former year employee of Jostens, a large yearbook manufacturing company, Malik Means left it a few years ago after 16 years, to run Active World Scholastic, a two-year-old East New York-based company he cofounded that provides schools with graduation packages. Currently working on the graduation needs of 40 schools in New York City and New Jersey — half in Brooklyn — he is helping the small schools that larger companies are ignoring, he says.

“They are usually geared towards larger schools with 500 students and up, but then smaller schools especially when Bloomberg was elected were being neglected — then I thought I would love to find a way to target those schools,” said Means.

In 2002, former Mayor Bloomberg launched a movement to decrease the size of some of the city’s biggest high schools, by creating smaller schools within them to increase graduation rates. In the effort, many of the smaller schools, especially those in lower income areas, were also not seen as desirable clients to school memorabilia businesses, said Means.

“Their business is geared more towards middle America, and those are the schools where families have more disposable income and their prices reflect that,” he said. “But that created an opportunity for me.”

Means’ company gives a one-stop shop for all senior graduation services, offering cap and gown, senior apparel, jewelry, photographs, and yearbooks, under different package price options, prioritizing schools with 60 – 600 students. His company mini-



East Flatbush native Malik Means inside his office at Active World Scholastic — a small business company that services small schools with full-range graduation packages.
Community News Group / Alexandra Simon

mizes the multi-company handlings most school yearbook advisors have to deal with, and boasts of motivational speaker events and hands-on services where most companies do not.

“We bring public speakers in and have a presence in schools by working with the yearbook staff,” said Means. “A large company will sell a product to the school but they won’t go in on a Tuesday and work with the yearbook staff where the graduating class is probably 80 students — the win is the school is only dealing with one person, they get a better price, and we go in there and do

interactive services.”

With a four-team staff at Active World Scholastic including himself, Means and his team visit schools every six weeks to show students and their advisors the ropes of print production because he says, they get to learn vital life skills.

“We’re teaching them A to Z — and they actually go out and take candid photos for their yearbook,” he said. “Everything starts with their vision and we give them old yearbooks to look at — they’re natural leaders and all you’re doing is developing those leadership skills.”

Inside Life

Continued from page 12

uniquely positioned to deal with this urban / business / entertainment New York persona who will now be President of the United States because we’ve had to deal with him and that persona our entire lives.”

“I hope he grows, and I hope he can emerge differently but we will not wait and we will set an atmosphere that will aid that growth by our mass action and constant vigilance. Dr. King once said that there are two types of leaders: thermometers that judge the temperature in

the room, and thermostats that change the temperature in the room.”

“As one that has faced Trump for three decades, I know that the only way to make him grow or sweat is to change the climate. We’re ready.”

One week after Sharpton’s demonstration, a protest first announced as the Million Women’s March will coalesce gender-concerned females for the renamed “Women’s March On Washington.”

On Jan. 21, the day after Trump inauguration, defiant females plan to demonstrate their disgust with the “election of a man who has been repeatedly accused of sexual harassment and assault.”

Two days after the announcement of the march on social media, more than

41,000 people signed up to attend.

According to posts on Facebook, more than 115,000 are listed as interested in attending the rally.

“We need to make clear that women will not allow this president-elect to deny or belittle hard-won rights,” Luanna Meyer, a committed attendee wrote.

“Peaceful demonstration and free speech are two of those rights, so please join us if you believe in democracy for a nation that seems to be filled with far too many who wish to replace it with hate, racism, sexism, demagoguery and bigotry against those who have been victimized far too many times and for far too many years.”

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Collective to hold Kwanzaa celebration, feed the need

By Nelson A. King

The Brooklyn-based group, People of the Sun Middle Passage Collective, says it will hold its annual Kwanzaa celebration and Feed the Need event on Sat., Dec. 17 at the gymnasium at Medgar Evers College on Carroll Street in Crown Heights, Brooklyn.

According to Jamaican-born program director, Tony Akeem, the Kwanzaa celebration will begin 6 pm, ending at 10 pm, and will feature spoken word, song and dance.

He said performances will be by Shanto, Kow Teff, Imani Dance & Drum Ensemble, among others.

Akeem said vendors will also provide

“an array of items to purchase.”

“Calling for performing artists, including spoken word performers, musicians and dancers to come celebrate with us at Medgar Evers College – a momentous 50 years of Kwanzaa!” he said.

Prior to the celebration, Akeem said the Collective will host the annual Feed the Need event “for our community,” disclosing that food will be served, and clothing and children’s gifts will be distributed. This event will begin at 3 pm.

For more information, please contact: Akeem @718-659-4999; akeem476@gmail.com

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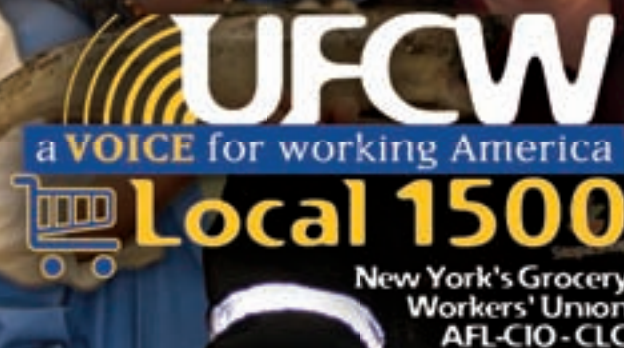
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Shop Brooklyn

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BY SHAVANA ABRUZZO

Chestnut flour scooped from a fat wooden barrel and weighed on a scale. Extra virgin olive oil perfumed with truffles. A Brooklyn Nets baby onesie. Bowls refashioned from vinyl records. Fried silkworms.

Brooklyn's indie shopping and dining scene is as intrepid and intoxicating as a hand-rolled, salt 'n' vinegar bagel double-dipped in a black chocolate craft beer, with tree-lined corridors acting as lucrative labyrinths for small businesses as eclectic and extraordi-

nary as any you'll find in London, Paris, Rome — and especially Manhattan.

Kings County is a monarch of retail therapy, and its mom-and-pops outrank "the City" for variety and overall shopping experience.

Chances are the Brooklyn shopkeeper and restaurateur knows your name and will greet you with a hug or a free espresso. It's also a safe bet that the shopper or diner next to you is from Tokyo, Oslo, or Sidney making a personal visit across the East River to discover

the charms of Brooklyn's small-town splendor.

Our borough's diversified small businesses make every day an opportunity to appreciate and applaud the brick-and-mortar bounty in our backyard — without the crowds and long lines!

Local commerce strengthens our communities, advances our borough's appeal, and makes our patronage matter. So, get going — and don't forget to pack our fabulous guide to the top shopping and dining turfs in town.



JUST DESSERTS: Stop by Bedford-Stuyvesant's Brooklyn Baby Cakes and Imani Blessitt will help you find the perfect treat for a loved one with a sweet tooth.

Photo by Caleb Caldwell



CONFECTION PERFECTION: Choc-oh-lot Plus on Fifth Avenue in Bay Ridge is a chocoholic's dream.

Photo by Steven Schnibbe



WELCOME: Brighton Beach Avenue offers a multitude of unique Russian vendors.

Photo by Arthur DeGaeta

BAY RIDGE

The "original Gold Coast" is immortalized in the 1970s cult classic "Saturday Night Fever," and its mom-and-pops — occupying three shopping districts and some around for more than a quarter of a century — would make Tony Manero boogie with pride. You'll get more than you bargained for with sweeping views of the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge and side streets braided with stately row houses and majestic green spaces.

Third Avenue between 65th to 100th streets:

- Fine and casual dining with cuisine from more than 10 nations.
- Handmade cards, stationery, invitations, custom printing, bags, gift wrap.
- Framing.
- Home decorating and gifts.
- Toys and books.

86th Street between Fourth Avenue and Fort Hamilton Parkway:

- Family-owned pharmacies.
- Jewelers.
- Appliances.
- Shoe repair.
- Locksmith.
- Butcher.

Fifth Avenue between 65th and 85th streets:

- Beauty and hair supplies.
- Fish markets.
- Florists.
- Bridal.
- Gardening and landscaping.
- Pet services.

BEDFORD-STUYVESANT

Bedford-Stuyvesant's tradition of mom-and-pops — Jewish immigrants Morris and Rose Michtom invented the Teddy bear in 1902 above their tiny candy store at 404 Tompkins Ave. between Hancock Street and Jefferson Avenue — is a living catalog of the small business experience. A major revitalization is underway in this urban kaleidoscope immortalized in Spike Lee's "Do the Right Thing," as a new wave of innovative merchants discovers the commercial promise of the neighborhood named after the British Duke of Bedford and 17th-century settler Peter Stuyvesant.

Fulton Street between Classon and Troy avenues:

- Doubles (A West Indian snack made of flat fried bread filled with curried chickpeas).
- Millinery.
- Pharmacies.
- Event spaces.
- Art gallery.

Nostrand Avenue between Atlantic Avenue and Halsey Street:

- Boutique wines.
- Bakery.
- Cafes.
- Florist.
- Martial arts videos.

BRIGHTON BEACH

Fresh sea air and yawping gulls are as much a part of shopping and dining in Brighton Beach as the Russian men strolling the Boardwalk



BATHING BEAUTIES: Evelin Gaspar shows off the top-selling merchandise at the Lola Star Boardwalk Boutique in Coney Island that any beach lover will love to receive. Photo by Joshua Winata

in Speedos. The hard-nosed, Russian-American neighborhood of homestyle restaurants, boisterous markets, pulsating nightclubs, and brassy street vendors is dubbed “Little Odessa” for its predominance of ex-Soviets, who speak their own languages over English and remain loyal to their heritage down to the Cyrillic signage on their kitschy storefronts. Most of the action is on a street huddled below a rumbling elevated subway line, and along the Boardwalk which runs parallel.

Brighton Beach Avenue between Ocean Parkway and Brighton 14th Street:

- East European food.
- International newspapers and magazines.
- Wines and liquors.
- Clothing.
- Travel agencies.
- Nightclubs.

Brighton Beach Avenue between

Ocean Parkway and Brighton 14th Street:

- Banquet halls.
- Restaurants.
- Seasonal al fresco dining.

BROOKLYN HEIGHTS

Artists and writers, such as Salvador Dali and Truman Capote, lived in Brooklyn Heights, the city’s first historic district, and its bucolic streets and elegant homes have been backdrops for numerous TV series and movies, including “The Cosby Show” and “Moonstruck.” Its main drag for shopping and dining is canonized in Bob Dylan’s “Tangled Up in Blue,” in which he croons, “I lived with them on Montague Street, in a basement down the stairs, there was music in the cafes at night and revolution in the air.” The seamless fusion of upscale boutiques, regional specialty shops, and casual and fine dining make this noble neighborhood one of the city’s most

blue-chip destinations.

Montague Street between Columbus Park to Hicks Street:

- Books.
- Thrift shops.
- Variety mart.
- Specialty foods.
- Wine and liquors.

BROWNSVILLE

A \$4 million city investment, affordable real estate — much of it art deco with Mayan and art nouveau touches — free wifi, bike lanes, and the lowest crime drop in its recorded history are attracting merchants and shoppers to Pitkin Avenue. Brownsville’s main shopping terminal is also the leafy backdrop for vibrant, beautiful murals celebrating the history and culture of the area — home of “deacon of American composers” Aaron Copland and boxing champ Mike Tyson — in a partnership with the Groundswell Community Mural Project.

Pitkin Avenue between Mother Gaston Boulevard and Howard Avenue:

- Fabrics.
- Travel agencies.
- Videos.
- Bakeries.
- Appliances.

BUSHWICK

Descendants of Hessian mercenaries settled in Bushwick after the American Revolution and made it a national brewery capital, supplying 10 percent of all beer consumed in the country. These days artistic talent abounds in this gritty, industrial neighborhood, which features a provocative bar scene and several unique mom-and-pops.

White Street between Boerum and McKibbin streets:

- Vintage clothing.
- Wyckoff, Wilson, and Bushwick avenues (and Broadway) between Cooper Street

and Flushing Avenue:

- Vinyl records.
- Fabrics.
- Books.
- Jewelry.
- Clothing.

Knickerbocker Avenue between Gates and Flushing avenues:

- Consignments.
- Arts and crafts.

CANARSIE

An amusement park on the pier drew revelers to Canarsie in the early 1900s, while a ferry transported them to the beaches of Rockaway — the L train now follows the same route from East New York to its eastern edge. Today a grapevine of small business help boost the cultural diversity and neighborliness that add to Canarsie’s hometown feel.

Flatlands between Ralph and Pennsylvania avenues:

- Furniture.
- Electronics and cell phones.
- Caribbean cuisine.
- Window treatments.
- Hardware.

CONEY ISLAND

Hurricane Sandy went nuts on the People’s Playground, with floodwaters covering an area with more than 18,000 businesses that employed at least 200,000 workers, but that hasn’t stopped the great melting pot by the seaside from being a great place to relax, eat, and shop. A \$64 million amphitheater — featuring a performance space, restaurant, rooftop cafe, and public park — is opened in 2016. You can also wet your whistle at an upscale sports bar or a time-honored dive, nosh on a world-famous hot dog or a Zagat-rated steak, and shop for a magnificent memento you won’t find anywhere else.

Surf Avenue between W. 37th Street and Brighton Beach:

- Beach supplies.
- Confectioners.
- Mexican and Turkish food.
- Souvenirs.
- Butcher.

Boardwalk between Corbin Place and W. 37th Street:

- Diner.
- Candy apples.
- Bar and grill.
- Frozen yogurt.
- Beach supplies.

DITMAS PARK

Hot Real Estate N.Y.C. named Ditmas Park — a Big Apple historic district — one of the best young professionals’ neighborhoods in the city. It was farmland a little more than 100 years ago, and real estate gold for the Guggenheims, Gillettes, and other magnates who built elegant mansions here after the subway arrived and Brooklyn became part of the city. Exotic restaurants, including Afghan, halal Chinese, and Tibetan fare, are only half of a small-business message that offers a myraid of local delights.

Church Avenue between Flatbush and Coney Island avenues:

- Ethnic food.
- Variety discount.



A work of art: For the art lover in your life, Tony Akbay at Faith Art Gallery in MetroTech can suggest the perfect photo, or frame one of your own. Photo by Jason Speakman

SHOP LOCAL

- Beauty salons and barbers.
- Jewelry.
- Pawn merchants.

Cortelyou Road between Coney Island Avenue and East 17th Street:

- Handmade gifts.
- Dance studio.
- Cameras.

DOWNTOWN-NORTH FLATBUSH

Public and private investors are pouring billions into Downtown for public improvements while mainstream brands become consumer staples, but there are still enough great mom-and-pops around to make your shopping a home-grown experience. Its central location also makes it the perfect launching pad to surrounding neighborhoods of Park Slope, Dumbo, Fort Greene, Brooklyn Heights, Williamsburg, Bushwick, and Prospect Heights.

MetroTech Center, bounded by Jay Street, Johnson Street, Flatbush Avenue, and Myrtle Avenue:

- Bakeries.
- Variety.
- Clothing.
- Food markets.
- Discount-variety stores.

Fulton Street between Nevins Street and Court Square—Adams Street:

- Footwear.
- Jewelry.
- Clothing.
- Beauty.
- Wigs.

Court Street between Joralemon Street and Atlantic Avenue; Livingston Street between Court Street and Flatbush Avenue; and Schermerhorn Street between Court Street and Flatbush Avenue:

- Dry cleaners.
- Hardware.
- Boutiques.
- Tobacconists.
- Nail salons.

Flatbush Avenue between Atlantic and Eighth avenues:

- Health and wellness.
- Laundry, alterations, shoe repair.
- Chess.
- Toys.
- Gardening.

DUMBO

Jerry Seinfeld once joked that New Yorkers added the "O" in Dumbo because they didn't want to live in a neighborhood called "Dumb." You might have that feeling if you left the armadillo-shaped waterfront district — crouched under the Brooklyn and Manhattan bridges — off your shopping and dining bucket list. Artsy, eco-minded mom-and-pops and fun eateries embroider cobbled streets flanked by old warehouses, scenic open spaces, and swish high-rises. Front Street is the heart of this vibrant and creative community that's also a new port of call for discerning shoppers and diners.

Front Street between John and Fulton streets:

- Cards and stationery.
- Furniture.
- Brick-oven pizza.
- Sporting goods.
- Art galleries.

Jay Street between John and York streets:

- Children's clothing.
- Bridal.
- Accessories.
- Kung-fu studio.
- Cafes.

Main Street between Front and Plymouth streets:

- Photo books.
- Bakery.

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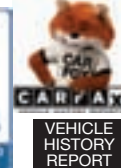
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Rep. Yvette D. Clarke, D-N.Y., speaks about the New York Police Department's stop and frisk policy, Thursday, June 7, 2012, during a news conference on Capitol Hill in Washington.

Associated Press / Haraz N. Ghanbari, File

Americans express fear

Continued from page 1

to undermine the best traditions of our nation and attempt to relegate women, African Americans, Latinos, Jews, Muslims, and the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) community to second-class citizenship."

"These are not just words," she said, adding that reports from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) "demonstrate that hate crimes have already increased dramatically since Election Day — including a swastika recently painted on the sidewalk in Crown Heights."

"The threat of violent hatred has become a reality for more and more Americans," Clarke continued. "We cannot — and we will not — allow anyone to disregard our humanity and demean our existence. I urge the incoming administration to reject such vile rhetoric and urge my constituents to report suspected hate crimes to law enforcement authorities."

In their letter to Trump, the congressional representatives said that immediately following his victory, "many Americans were optimistic and hopeful that you would take the steps necessary to unify our country following the divisive and contentious election."

"In your election night speech, you said, 'Now, it's time for America to bind the wounds of division. It is time for us to come together as one united people,'" the congressional representative writes. "Unfortunately, your appointment of Stephen Bannon, whose ties to the White Nationalist movement have been well-documented, directly undermines your ability to unite the country. As elected representatives of millions of Americans from diverse backgrounds, religions, and ethnicities, we strongly urge you to reconsider your decision to appoint Mr. Bannon to White House

Chief Strategist."

The Members of Congress said that Bannon's appointment sends the wrong message to people who have engaged in xenophobic, racist and discriminatory activities, "indicating that they will not only be tolerated, but endorsed by your Administration."

The congress members said that millions of Americans have expressed fear and concern about how they will be treated by the Trump Administration, adding that Trump's appointment Bannon "only exacerbates and validates their concerns."

"As the Executive Chairman of Breitbart News, Mr. Bannon repeatedly and aggressively pushed stories that promote anti-Semitism, xenophobia, and racism," they write. "During an interview last summer, Mr. Bannon bragged that Breitbart was 'the platform for the alt-right,' a movement that upholds White Nationalism while strongly rejecting diversity in any form."

"Under Mr. Bannon's leadership, Breitbart has referred to a leading Republican who opposed your election as a 'Renegade Jew,' suggested 'Young Muslims in the West are a ticking time bomb,' declared that the 'Confederate flag proclaims a glorious heritage,' and praised the alt-right as a 'smarter' version of 'old-school racist skinheads,'" they add.

"Disturbingly, leading white nationalists like former KKK Grand Dragon David Duke, American Nazi Party Chairman Rocky J. Suhadya, Richard Spencer, Peter Brimelow, and Brad Griffin have praised the news of Mr. Bannon's appointment," the congress members continue. "We believe it should concern you that civil rights groups, including the Anti-Defamation League and the Southern Poverty Law Center, are widely opposed to Mr. Bannon's appointment."

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Caribe Funeral Home helps families honor loved ones

BY CAMILLE SPERRAZZA

Caribe Funeral Home treats people with dignity and compassion.

The licensed and well-trained staff assists with funeral and cremation services, personalizing them as family members see fit.

One way they do so is via modern technology. As Caribe Funeral Home caters to a large Caribbean population, family members from home are sometimes unable to make the trip to Brooklyn to attend the services. Still, the staff understands that their inclusion is important. Therefore, Caribe Funeral Home uses Skype to send images of the services to the islands — or any place else in the world where friends and family might be gathered.

It offers several burial packages to create a tribute that fits every budget. Many people opt for a traditional service that includes a viewing at the funeral home, followed by services at the home or at a church. Flowers can be arranged and displayed. Photographs and other memorabilia



Caribe Funeral Home gives families and friends a comfortable and lovely setting in which to grieve for their loved ones. The staff assists mourners with everything they need during a difficult time — even using Skype to connect family far away.



Photos by Jordan Rathkopf

are encouraged to personalize the service, and a state-of-the-art video and sound system is available to enhance the experience. There is one room that can accommodate up to 150 people; another holds up to 200.

No matter what the size, Caribe never loses sight of the importance of the occasion. A burial honors the life of a person, and that is always the focus.

An alternative to a traditional burial is a graveside service. Here, services are held at the cemetery, and family and friends meet there. This option is for those who choose not to have a viewing or funeral service at the funeral home or church.

An immediate burial is the least expensive of all the burial options, and perhaps the easiest. It is for people who do not wish

to have any type of viewing or service. Caribe Funeral Home can make these arrangements as well.

Today, a number of people choose cremation. It's simple and affordable, and it's becoming increasingly popular because of environmental concerns. Some mistakenly believe that if you choose to cremate a loved one, there is no service, but this is

not the case. If cremation is your choice, you may still hold a viewing, memorial service, and a funeral. You can also opt to bury the cremated remains.

The remains may also be placed in an urn vault, to be included in a family plot. Others may choose to scatter them in a special location. Some decide to place remains in a keepsake so that a loved one can remain close to them forever.

Whatever a family's vision for an end-of-life ceremony, Caribe Funeral Home is dedicated to assisting you in creating the service the family desires. They assist everyone, no matter what religious affiliation, and their services have been utilized by residents of Brooklyn as well as those who live in Manhattan, Queens, Staten Island, The Bronx, Long Island, upstate New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut.

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Drama everywhere in gay preacher's life

"The Gay Preacher's Wife" by Lydia Meredith
c.2016, Gallery Books
\$16.00 / \$22.00 Canada
244 pages

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

The flowers were a very nice touch.

They greeted you from the kitchen counter just as you got home, and were followed by a romantic dinner, candle-light conversation, and a quiet evening at home. It was a gift from your spouse, who often has many surprises for you. But, as in the new book "The Gay Preacher's Wife" by Lydia Meredith, some surprises aren't so welcome.

Born into a large southern family, Lydia Meredith had a "strict Christian upbringing" that kept her somewhat sheltered until she went to college. Her first year at Vanderbilt, she says, was "a real culture shock," in part because she'd had little experience with dating and no experience with sex.

That changed at college, and so did Meredith. Gone was the scared little mouse, replaced by a confident young woman



Miss Universe Guyana 2016 Soyini Fraser.

who landed a high-paying job, bought her own home, and dealt with racism in the workplace. It was a good life but Meredith was lonely, and she prayed to God for someone to love.

God, she says, told her that Dennis Meredith would be her husband.

That was an odd notion, since Meredith had had little contact with her church's youth pastor. He was a charismatic preacher and she wasn't sure she liked the way he spoke

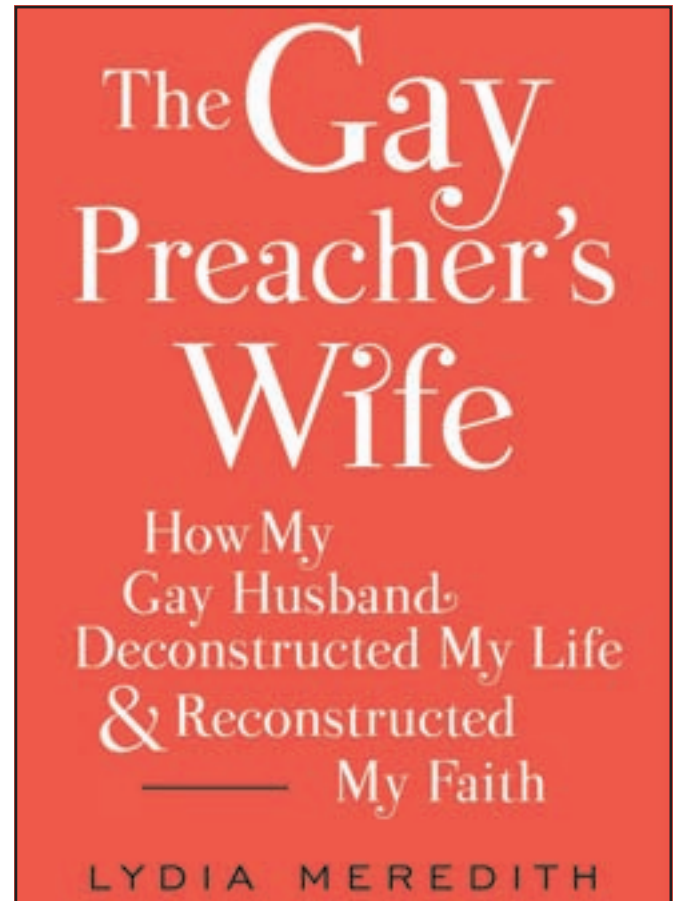
from the pulpit. She'd barely even acknowledged that he existed but from then on, she says, "I could not take my... mind off this man..."

She was not, therefore, surprised when Dennis asked her out.

Their romance was not without its problems.

Meredith says he was not her type, that she wanted someone to whom she could "marry up." She didn't want to be a preacher's wife like the "miserable" First Lady of her childhood church. Still, Meredith married Dennis, settled down, and things got better before they got worse.

Shortly after their third son started school, Meredith began "to see some changes in Dennis... but I couldn't put my finger on it." He seemed preoccupied, and she blamed their harried life until she found a gay porn video and Dennis admitted to Meredith that he was bisexual, maybe gay. He was sleeping with men — lots of them — and Meredith began practicing "denial, suppression, and avoidance!"



Book cover of "The Gay Preacher's Wife" by Lydia Meredith.



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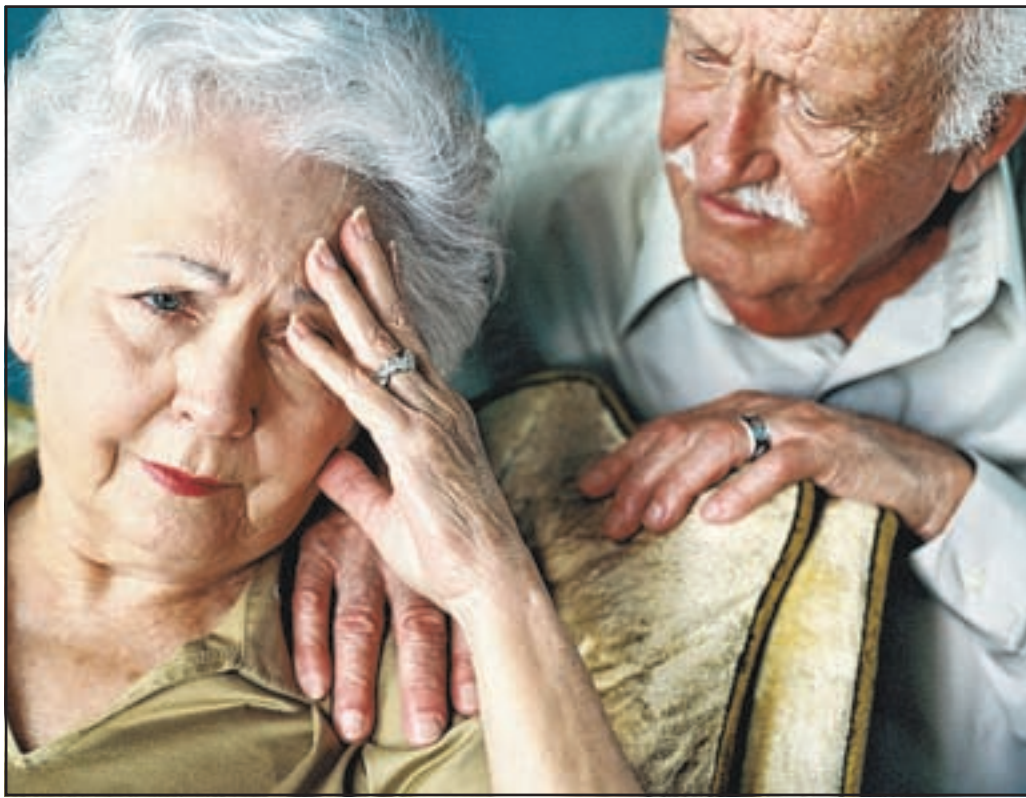
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Fearfulness or feelings of anxiety are changes in mood and personality that could indicate Alzheimer's disease.

Ten warning signs of Alzheimer's

Few families are fortunate enough to say they have not been impacted by Alzheimer's disease. A progressive, degenerative disease of the brain, Alzheimer's impairs thinking and memory, accounting for 50 to 80 percent of dementia cases according to the Alzheimer's Association.

Though many people's experiences with Alzheimer's disease involves an elderly relative, the disease is not exclusive to the elderly. Up to five percent of people with the disease have early-onset Alzheimer's, which most often appears when someone is in their 40s and 50s.

Because it can strike men and women even if they aren't elderly, it's important to know these 10 warning signs of Alzheimer's:

Memory loss that disrupts daily life

Memory loss is one of the most common signs of Alzheimer's. This is especially so if men and women forget things that happened very recently, which can negatively impact their daily lives. Additional signs include forgetting important

dates and events; asking for the same information over and over again; or relying on memory aides such as reminder notes or even family members for things individuals could once remember on their own.

Difficulty planning

Some people might start to exhibit difficulty following a plan or working with numbers, be it following a recipe or paying the monthly bills. Concentration is often difficult for those exhibiting symptoms of Alzheimer's.

Difficulty completing familiar tasks

Daily tasks such as driving to work or remembering the rules of a familiar game will prove difficult for people with Alzheimer's.

Disorientation with time or place

Nearly everyone has had momentary lapses where they forget what time it is or what day it is. But such lapses are not momentary for people with Alzheimer's, who might even get lost on their own street and not remember how to get home.

Trouble with images and space

Some people with Alzheimer's have difficulty reading, judging distance or determining color or contrast. For example, a person with Alzheimer's might walk past a mirror and not realize he or she is the person in the mirror.

New problems with words

People with Alzheimer's might experience trouble holding or joining a conversation. An example is stopping in the middle of a conversation and having no idea how to continue.

They might also struggle with vocabulary, often having trouble finding the right word to express what they're thinking.

Misplacing things

People with Alzheimer's might put things in unusual places and then experience difficulty retracing their steps to find those items.

This tends to occur more frequently over time, and they often accuse others of stealing items they simply can't find.

Continued on page 36

Cognitive ability better among bilingual

Seniors who are bilingual and have spoken two or more languages since their youth may have cognitive advantages over adults who have only spoken one language their entire lives.

A new study headed by Brian Gold, a neuroscientist at the University of Kentucky College of Medicine, which was published in the journal *Neuroscience*, found that bilingualism leads to heightened mental skills. In the study, participants were divided into three groups: bilingual seniors, monolingual seniors, and younger adults. Each group was instructed to sort colors and shapes in a series of simple cognitive exercises. The researchers used a brain imaging technique to compare how well the subjects switched between mental tasks. The results indicated there were different patterns of brain activity among the groups when the tasks were being completed.

The patterns showed that bilingual seniors were able to switch between tasks and activate their brains in a manner closer to the younger subjects. They didn't have to expend much effort, and they outperformed their peers who were monolingual. The researchers surmised the bilingual seniors were using their brains more efficiently.

Other studies have shown bilingualism pays even more dividends, including improved cognitive function in those suffering from Alzheimer's disease. A study titled "Lifelong Bilingualism Maintains Neural Efficiency for Cognitive Control in Aging," found that even though seniors who spoke dual languages had more brain atrophy due to Alzheimer's, they were still able to function better than individuals with



Seniors who have been bilingual since childhood have cognitive advantages over those who only speak one language.

lower levels of atrophy who spoke one language. Researchers believe that being bilingual strengthens the brain's capacity for doing work, even if it is working at a deficit.

The jury is still out as to whether learning a second language or moving to a foreign country as an adult can provide the same level of cognitive advantage as being bilingual from childhood. However, learning a new language can help keep the brain sharp. Many experts now believe learning a second language is no harder when you're getting on in years than when you're a child.

There are different methods to learning a new language:

- Foreign language tapes
- Grammar and vocabulary books from a child's foreign language class
- A foreign language tutor
- Vocabulary index cards
- Moving to a foreign country and learning through immersion

Bilingual seniors have distinct cognitive advantages over other people who are monolingual. Urging children to learn a new language or learning as an adult can have profound effects on mental abilities.

The benefits of reading

Many people are avid readers, feeling that a good book remains the most entertaining form of escapism. But reading provides more than just an opportunity to leave the daily grind behind.

While many people may read to immerse themselves in something other than a movie or a television show, they may not know about all the additional benefits they are enjoying when cuddling up with a good book:

Improve brain function

A recent study from researchers at Emory University discovered that reading a novel can improve brain function in various ways. During the study, researchers found that reading fiction improves connectivity in the brain.

In addition, reading fiction improved readers' ability to put themselves in other peoples' shoes, which might help them relate better to people in both the present and future.

Long-term brain health

Researchers at the Rush University Medical Center in Chicago found that reading is one of a handful of

mentally stimulating activities that can benefit brain health in old age.

In their Rush Memory and Aging Project, researchers examined nearly 300 elderly men and women, giving them tests of memory and thinking throughout the final years of their lives.

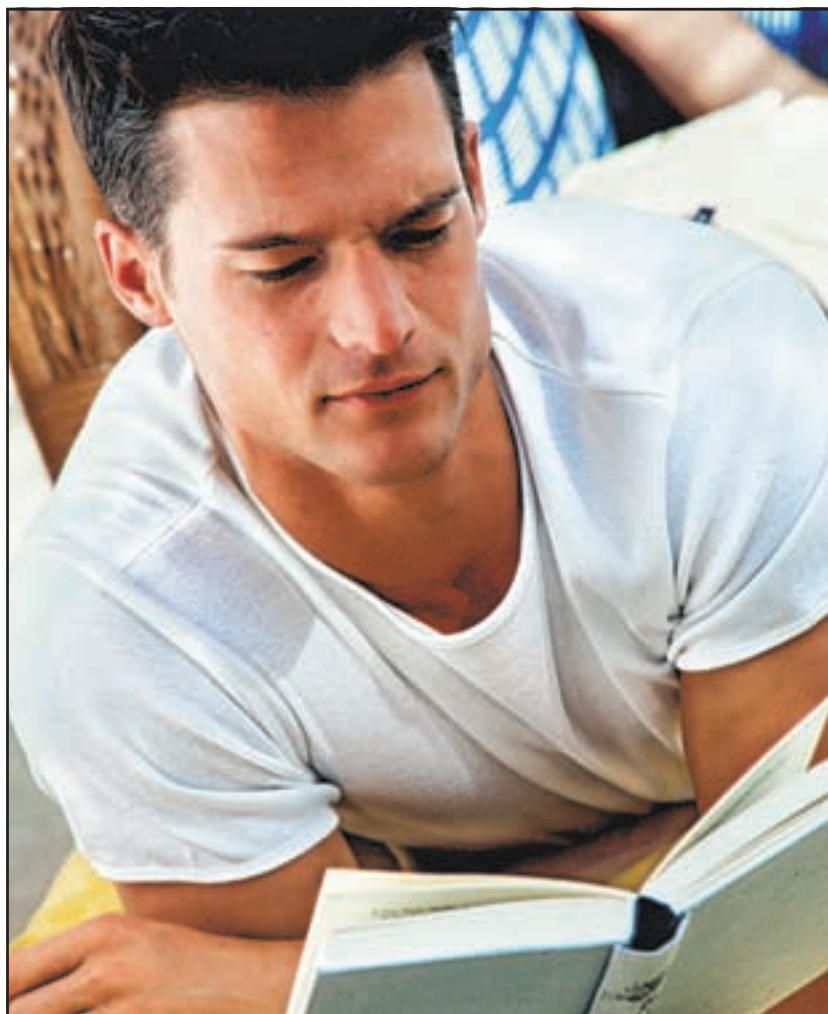
When participants, who were surveyed as to how often they engaged in mentally stimulating activities such as reading, passed away, their brains were examined for signs of Alzheimer's disease and dementia.

Researchers discovered that the participants who engaged in mentally challenging activities most often had slower rates of memory decline.

Can help reduce stress

Another big benefit of reading is its relationship to stress. According to a 2009 study from researchers at the University of Sussex in England, reading can reduce stress by up to 68 percent.

In addition, reading might help relieve that stress even faster than other forms of stress relief because it allows for a more immediate escape from the stress of daily life.



Researchers discovered that study participants who engaged in mentally challenging activities most often had slower rates of memory decline in old age.

Can help improve sleep

According to the National Sleep Foundation, engaging in a calming activity for an hour before going to bed can help your body wind down and ready itself for sleep. Some people may struggle

to fall asleep after reading on an electronic device, such as a tablet or e-reader, as the light that emanates from such devices may be activating the brain. If need be, stick to reading traditional print books and magazines before going to bed.

SIGNS

Continued from page 35

Decreased or poor judgement

Poor judgement, such as not visiting the doctor or mishandling finances, is another warning sign for Alzheimer's.

These poor decisions can extend to personal grooming, which men and women with Alzheimer's might neglect.

Withdrawal from society

Men and women with Alzheimer's might start to withdraw from

society, removing themselves from social activities, projects at work or hobbies.

Avid sports fans might no longer be able to follow their favorite team, while social butterflies might grow reclusive.

Changes in mood and personality

People with Alzheimer's might experience mood swings for no apparent reason and can become anxious, confused, depressed, fearful, or suspicious. Acting out of character might also be indicative of Alzheimer's.

More information about Alzheimer's disease is available at www.alz.org and www.alzheimer.ca.



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B3, B44, B36

Dr. Alan P. Goldman: Treating And Relieving Arthritis Pain

There are a lot of people suffering with joint pain and arthritis, says **Dr. Alan P. Goldman**, a specialist in rheumatology (130 Brighton Beach Avenue, 718-946-7557), and they often believe that there is little that can be done to alleviate their pain.

They are wrong. There are many options available, Dr. Goldman says; the key is finding a physician who is knowledgeable in those treatment modalities.

As a rheumatologist, Dr. Goldman specializes in the treatment of arthritis; one of only a handful practicing in Brooklyn.

Rheumatoid arthritis is an inflammatory illness that causes joints to swell. Symptoms include morning stiffness and swelling, often in the hands, elbows, or wrists, he says. Perhaps because there are so few rheumatologists in the borough, when people experience these symptoms, they often "see a surgeon first," says Dr. Goldman. But this often doesn't make much sense, he explains.

"When you have stomach pains, you don't go to a surgeon before seeing a gastroenterologist," he explains. "When you have chest pains, you don't see a surgeon before seeing a cardiologist."

A surgeon is the expert to see when surgery is needed, he notes, and of course Dr. Goldman refers patients to surgeons when necessary. Still, Dr. Goldman believes that the majority of people who suffer with arthritis can be treated without surgery. Even those who suffer

enormously may find relief with Remicade IV infusion treatments, he says. "It has worked wonders."

Patients receive these treatments once every few months, and people who previously couldn't move well find that the "benefits are tremendous," he says. Those whose symptoms are less severe may find relief with pills or injections. This method has been used successfully for many years, says Dr. Goldman. And, "It still works."

When patients see Dr. Goldman they are assured of receiving expert evaluations. Dr. Goldman's office offers x-rays, and a number of in-office treatment procedures. Should patients need physical therapy, arrangements can be made for this, as well.

Dr. Goldman also recommends that people age 60 or older come in to be checked for osteoporosis. People who are thin or who smoke are especially at risk, he notes.

Dr. Goldman is a Harvard graduate who has studied at Bellevue Hospital-New York University Medical Center and Gouverneur Hospital in Manhattan. He is on staff at the New York Methodist Hospital, and he is a Fellow of the American College of Rheumatology, as well as a member of the American College of Physicians, Nassau County Medical Society, the New York State Medical Society, American Medical Association, and the New York Academy of Sciences.

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This sort of ultimate personalized attention starts the very minute you discover Paradise. At this facility, you don't deal with some salesman. You deal directly with one of the owners, Hercules, or his son, Mike. And why is this so essential?

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The lavish party room, which can be made intimate enough for parties of 100, or grand enough to host a spectacular of up to 400, is marked by a central chandelier that will take your breath away. It is the focal point for a magnificent space done up in sophisticated pinks and reds, with mirrored accents that lend a touch of infinity to the already expansive area.

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And when it comes to the food, the chefs are world class. Whatever you can find in the cookbooks, they can serve at the table. They offer an added expertise in all manner of ethnic cooking. Add to that everything is cooked from scratch right on the premises to assure the highest in quality control.

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Miss Universe Guyana 2016 Soyini Fraser.

Miss Universe Guyana 2016

By Tangerine Clarke

Twenty-six-year-old Soyini Fraser is a stunning 5' 10" beauty, whose love of pageantry runs deep. Fraser, the reigning Miss Universe Guyana 2016, the same titled she lost some years ago, and title holder of three others, will attend a Meet and Greet Gala Fundraiser on Dec. 2 at the Starz Princess Hall, 107-11 101st Ave., in Jamaica, New York, starting at 8 pm.

Continued on Page 42

African Film Festival

The African Diaspora International Film Festival (ADIFF) is back for its 24th edition from Nov. 25 to Dec. 11 with a total of 66 films from 30 countries including 34 United States and New York premieres. Screenings will be held in three venues in Manhattan: Teachers College, Columbia University, Cinopolis Chelsea Cinemas and MIST Harlem.

The films in ADIFF 2016 — some coming directly from important international film festivals such as Toronto, Cannes, Vancouver, Montreal or Rotterdam — illustrate the diversification of the global film industry, from impressive epic dramas (93 days, 76) to intimate stories that will touch the audience in many ways (While We Live, Sins of the Flesh, Montreal White City, Jerusa's Day).

Continued on Page 42



Jazz vocalist Lucy Blanco singing at Bushnell Park, Hartford, CT sponsored by Hartford Jazz Society.

Photo by Tequila Minsky

Jazz Ensemble celebrates its first CD

By Tequila Mindky

The Afri-Garifuna Jazz Ensemble is officially launching its debut album "Taguiera" (Homeland) at the Bronx Music Heritage Center, 1303 Louis Nine Blvd., Bronx from 1 pm-4 pm on Saturday, Nov. 26, 2016.

The afternoon is really a celebration of Garifuna culture. Along with Garifuna artwork on display, Garifuna eats will delight the palate with foods for sale prepared by Garifuna chef and restaurateur Melissa Pan.

The Afri-Garifuna Jazz Ensemble

will perform a full set of selections from the CD at the free family-friendly event, starting around 2 pm.

How it all began. The idea of fusing musical elements from Lucy Blanco's Garifuna roots with jazz had been percolating for a while. "I was looking for a Garifuna drummer to join with a jazz band in order to bring these genres together," she said.

After half a lifetime in Los Angeles, this jazz vocalist returned to the east coast and not long after, she met master Garifuna drummer, multi-in-

strumentalist James Lovell. He was enthusiastically receptive to idea. In 2011, the serious collaboration for the Afri-Garifuna Jazz Ensemble was on.

The Biko Center in Bushwick became a base to nurture the nascent band where they played regular gigs and the seeds of recording a CD were planted. Veteran musicians brought their own unique sensibility to the ensemble. On the albums' 12 tracks, they perform original compositions and jazz standards weaving Garifuna

Continued on Page 42

TOP OF THE CHARTS

TOP 10 SINGLES

- 1 **HERE**
Alicia Keys
- 2 **Trolls**
Soundtrack
- 3 **This House Is Not For Sale**
Bon Jovi
- 4 **A Pentatonix Christmas**
Pentatonix
- 5 **Black America Again**
Common
- 6 **Collage (EP)**
The Chainsmokers
- 7 **Hamilton**
Original Broadway Cast
- 8 **Now 60**
Various Artists
- 9 **Joanne**
Lady Gaga
- 10 **Chaos**
Attila

TOP 10 ALBUMS

- 1 **HERE**
Alicia Keys
- 2 **Trolls**
Soundtrack
- 3 **This House Is Not For Sale**
Bon Jovi
- 4 **A Pentatonix Christmas**
Pentatonix
- 5 **Black America Again**
Common
- 6 **Collage (EP)**
The Chainsmokers
- 7 **Hamilton: An American Musical**
Original Broadway Cast
- 8 **NOW 60**
Various Artists
- 9 **Joanne**
Lady Gaga
- 10 **Chaos**
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GARIFUNA MUSIC

Continued from page 41

rhythms of punta, paranda and hungu hungu into the fabric of the music.

Traditional folk instruments such as primero and segundo (Garifuna drums), maracas, conch and turtle shells, alongside piano, bass, saxophone and trap drums add great texture to this tapestry of sounds.

The concept of the CD is to take the listener from the beginning of the Garifuna journey, to the exile, to the migration to the United States with its American musical influences.

On the eponymous first track opening song —Taguiera— Lovell tells the story about the exile from the Garifuna homeland of St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

On the popular genre Maria Maria track, Blanco sings in Spanish and Lovell in the Arawak-based Garifuna language. Garifuna musical ele-

ments are a part of the interpretation of the jazz “Take Five” and Blanco’s singing of “Summertime” in Garifuna, adds new dimensions to this jazz standard.

The traditional Alugudaheina (Asking) and Gurasa (Endurance) blend Garifuna and jazz. Tracks are instrumental-only with additional tracks adding Garifuna vocals. The CD ends with “Journey” that highlights a vocal passage composed by violinist Eva Lou Vossmerbauer.

The Afri-Garifuna Jazz performs around town to diverse audiences and has been artists-in-residence at Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut.

The Bronx Music Heritage Center (BMHC) celebrates the rich history and creative spirit that defines Bronx music, from jazz, salsa, R&B and hip hop to new sounds and is ever a big supporter of the Afri-Garifuna Jazz Ensemble.



The Afri-Garifuna Jazz Ensemble just before their outdoor concert as headliners at Bushnell Park in Hartford, CT, this past summer.
Photo by Tequila Minsky

With 100,000 people identifying as Garifuna living in the Bronx, the largest Garifuna population outside of the set-

tlement villages in Central America, this center is a perfect venue to launch “Taguiera” (Homeland).



Jimmy Jean-Louis will present Opening Night romantic comedy-drama Everything But a Man by Nnegest Likké and his most important film to date Toussaint Louverture by Philip Niang.

African Film Fest

Continued from page 41

National and international celebrities as well as award-winning filmmakers are celebrated in ADIFF this year including Zeinabu Irene Davis, Jimmy Jean Louis, Dani Kouyaté, Eugene Corr, Danny Glover, O.C. Ukeje, Ramsey Nouah, Rita Dominic, Khaled El Hagar and Darlene Jonhson.

Spotlight on Nigerian Cinema

Directly from TIFF comes a selection of four Nigerian films (“93 days,” “76,” “The Arbitration” and “Taxi Driver”) by a new generation of filmmakers who both advance and challenge Nollywood with bigger budgets and greater artistic ambition. In “93 Days” by Steve Gukas, Danny Glover leads a team of doctors fighting a poten-

tial Ebola outbreak in Nigeria. In historic drama “76” by Izu Ojukwu the pregnant wife of a young soldier accused of complicity in the abortive coup of 1976 helps him prove his innocence.

Jimmy Jean-Louis, an International Actor

Jimmy Jean Louis is well known for his role as the Haitian in the Heroes series. With a rich acting career domestically and internationally, Mr. Jean-Louis is a guest of the festival in his capacity of actor, producer and ambassador at large of his native country, Haiti. Jimmy Jean-Louis will present Opening Night romantic comedy-drama “Everything But a Man” by Nnegest Likké and his most important film to date “Toussaint Louverture” by Philip Niang.

Miss Universe Guyana

Continued from page 41

Fraser brings a wealth of experience to the world stage, as such, she told Caribbean Life she is gearing up to make the top 15 at the 65th Miss Universe, scheduled for Jan. 29 in the Philippines.

Fraser, an executive producer of her own television series, said she likes to enter pageants because of the thrill they bring her, and added that she hopes to win the crown. She credits the new management of Miss Universe Guyana for the strong support she is getting, especially, franchise holder, Jyoti Hardat, a former beauty queen.

“I am determined to conquer the crown I am on a balanced diet, I exercise in preparation for the competition,” said the media personality, and professionally trained dancer and actress.

Her passion for working with children, the elderly and the less fortunate, while empowering them through mentorship, are goals that have made Fraser a household name in her native Georgetown.

Named special ambassador by the Guyana Tourism Authority, Fraser said she wants to share the warmth of her native people with her sisters at the Miss Universe Pageant, where she will compete in the swimwear, evening gown and Q&A categories.

Noting that she would be judged from the moment she gets on the plane and in the preliminaries, Miss Universe Guyana added it is critical to always be ready.

A graduate of the off-campus Life Christian University in Florida, Fraser said she is a ‘Guyanese Beauty’ and ultimately, plans to use the model of countries such as Venezuela and India, to make pageantry a business.

She plans to carry out various traditions and cultures to build the next batch of beauties by training girls from a young age — a process she has already put in place.

Fraser feels very strongly about instilling in young women, importance values such as educating themselves against domestic violence that has become widespread in her homeland.

Teaching girls from the grassroots that if a male student in her classroom pretend its playful to hit her because he likes her, and she accepts it, then grows up believing that if she is not hit, it means he does not like me, is very troubling.

Dark novel haunt's author's ex-wife in thriller

"Nocturnal Animals"

Excellent (4 stars)

Rated R for menacing, violence, profanity and graphic nudity

Running time: 115 minutes

Distributor: Focus Features

By Kam Williams

Susan Morrow (Amy Adams) hears from her estranged, ex-husband Edward (Jake Gyllenhaal) for the first time in almost 20 years when he mails her an advance copy of his upcoming novel, "Nocturnal Animals." Not only is she surprised to discover that he's dedicated the book to her, but that he'd like to get together for dinner the next time he's in Los Angeles.

Far more unsettling is Edward's semi-autobiographical manuscript which seems to be making thinly-veiled references to their failed marriage. While Susan had managed to move on with her life, it is suddenly apparent to her that he'd remained stuck in the past and might be now rehashing their relationship as a literary form of therapy.



Five-time Oscar® nominee Amy Adams portrays Susan Morrow in Tom Ford's "Nocturnal Animals." Merrick Morton

After all, back when they were dating, Susan had been warned by her imperious, well-heeled mother (Laura Linney) that she'd regret tying the knot with a romantic, aspiring writer from a relatively-humble

background. Sure enough, the family matriarch knew best, as the mismatched couple did eventually divorce.

However, while Susan went on to become a celebrated art curator and to remarry a busi-

nessman (Armie Hammer) who could afford to keep her living in the lap of luxury, Edward has yet to achieve anything approaching their level of success. Instead, the emotionally-stunted scribe has ostensibly

been venting all of his angst in an opus that only frightens his former wife.

It is abundantly clear that the novel's unstable protagonist, Tony Hastings (Jake Gyllenhaal), is based on Edward, and that the salacious series of events chronicled in the oft-gruesome text are the product of a terribly troubled mind. The only reason Susan might even entertain the idea of a rendezvous with a man she hasn't even spoken to in a couple decades, against her better judgment, is the fact that she's just learned that her second hubby is having an affair.

So, unfolds "Nocturnal Animals," a cerebral suspense thriller directed and adapted by Tom Ford from the Austin Wright best seller, "Tony and Susan." The movie marks the fashion designer's overdue sophomore foray into cinema following his sterling 2009 debut, "A Single Man."

This latest offering revolves around a sublime deconstruction of Susan's shifting mental state, from her present-day predicament, to flashbacks of her relationship with Edward, to her perspective of disturbing scenes from his unpublished novel. A haunting deconstruction, worthy of Hitchcock, of a vulnerable socialite's very fragile psyche.

Independent & Foreign Films

Always Shine (Unrated) Suspense thriller about a couple of actress BFFs (Mackenzie Davis and Caitlin FitzGerald) whose friendship is tested when they travel from L.A. to Big Sur for a weekend getaway in the woods. Cast includes Lawrence Michael Levine, Alexander Koch and Khan Baykal.

Baden Baden (Unrated) Character-driven dramedy about a fledgling, 26 year-old movie director (Salome Richard) who returns home to Strasbourg for the summer after her foreign film shoot falls through. Featuring Claude Gensac, Lazare Gousseau and Swann Arlaud. (In English, German and French with subtitles)

Behind the Cove (Unrated) Cruelty to animals documentary countering the negative publicity disseminated about the Japanese whaling industry by the Oscar-winning expose *The Cove*.

Lion (PG-13 for mature themes and some sensuality) Inspirational, real-life saga about a 30 year-old's (Dev Patel) search for his long-lost birth mother (Priyanka Bose) and big brother (Abhishek Bharate) back in India with the help of Google Earth, a quarter-century after being adopted by an Australian couple (Nicole Kidman and David Wenham). With Rooney Mara, Divian Ladwa and Eamon Farren. (In English, Hindi and Bengali with subtitles)

Mifune: The Last Samurai (Unrated) Reverential biopic, narrated by Keanu Reeves, chronicling the life



Kam's Kapsules

By Kam Williams

and career of Toshiro Mifune, the legendary star of *The Seven Samurai*, *Rashomon*, *Yojimbo* and numerous other Japanese film classics. Featuring commentary by Martin Scorsese and Steven Spielberg. (In English and Japanese with subtitles)

Miss Sloane (R for profanity and sexuality) Jessica Chastain plays the title character in this political thriller about a ruthless, D.C. lobbyist hired to match wits with a couple of former colleagues (Michael Stuhlbarg and Sam Waterston) representing gun manufacturers. With John Lithgow, Gugu Mbatha-Raw, Mark Strong and Alison Pill.

Seasons (PG for mature themes) Meteorological documentary observing assorted metamorphoses in nature during the changing of the seasons. (In French with subtitles)

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Allied (R for sexuality,)nudity, profanity, violence and brief drug use) Real life romance drama, set in North Africa in 1942, about a Canadian spy (Brad Pitt) who falls in love with a French Resistance fighter

(Marion Cotillard) while on a dangerous mission behind enemy lines only to learn that she might be a double agent in league with the Nazis. Cast includes Lizzy Caplan, Jared Harris and Vincent Latorre.

Bad Santa 2 (R for sexuality, crude humor, graphic nudity and pervasive profanity) Billy Bob Thornton is back as naughty St. Nick to hatch a plan with his evil elf sidekick (Tony Cox) to fleece a Chicago charity on Christmas Eve. With Kathy Bates, Jeff Skowron and Christina Hendricks.

Moana (PG for peril, scary images and mature themes) Seafaring animated adventure revolving around a headstrong, Polynesian teenager (Auli'i Cravalho) who embarks on a dangerous mission across the Pacific Ocean to save her people with the help of a legendary demigod (Dwayne Johnson). Voice cast includes Rachel House, Temuera Morrison and former, NFL great Troy Polamalu.

Rules Don't Apply (PG-13 for sexuality, mature themes, drug use and brief profanity) Warren Beatty wrote and directed this romantic dramedy, set in Hollywood in 1958, about an aspiring actress (Lily Collins) and a limo driver (Alden Ehrenreich), both employed by Howard Hughes (Beatty) who break their billionaire boss' workplace edict against fraternizing between employees. With Paul Sorvino, Candice Bergen, Annette Bening, Martin Sheen and Matthew Broderick.

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Jamaica's Elaine Thompson
Associated Press / Dmitri Lovetsky, File

Jamaicans shortlisted for awards

By Azad Ali

Jamaican Usain Bolt and Elaine Thompson have been shortlisted for the IAAF's World Athlete of the Year awards last week after capturing gold in the sprints at the recent Rio Olympics in Brazil.

Bolt, a five-time winner of the award, became the first athlete to win three consecutive 100 and 200 meters Olympic golds in Rio de Janeiro in August.

He also holds the world records in the two disciplines, 9.58 seconds and 19.19 seconds respectively.

Continued on Page 46

WICB recalls Darren Bravo

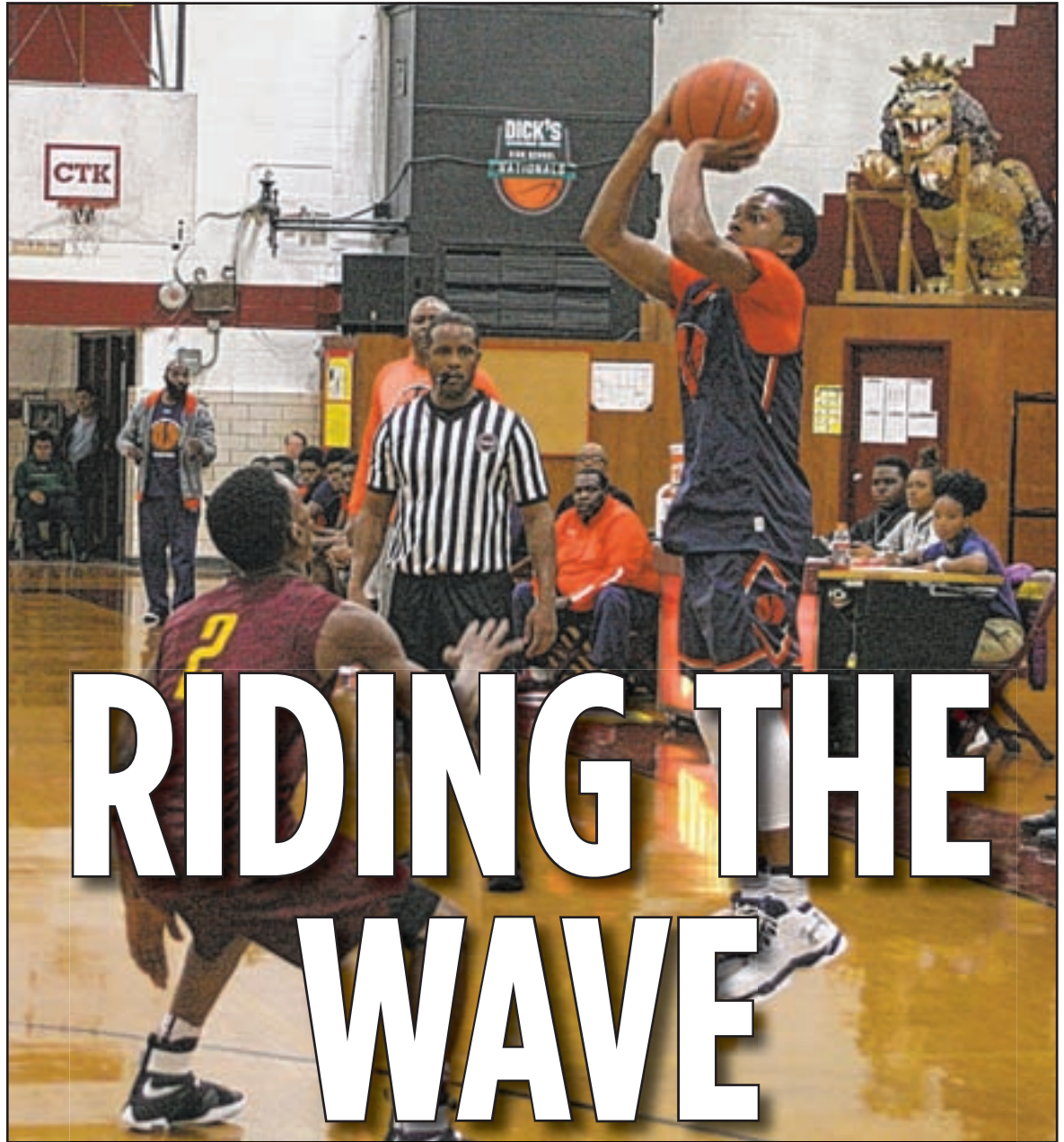
By Azad Ali

West Indies middle-order batsman Darren Bravo has been recalled from the Zimbabwe tour because of a scathing tweet he sent out about the president of the West Indies Cricket Board (WICB).

In a release dated Nov. 2, 2016 the WICB said that Bravo was offered a C Contract by the Board for the next year, but the left-handed Trinidadian batsman refused to accept it.

It is alleged that Cameron during an interview on regional Sportsmax channel, said that the reason Bravo was offered a C contract is because has underperformed.

Continued on Page 46



Splashing in the waves: Reigning city champs Thomas Jefferson will have some fresh faces on the starting lineup this year, including senior Khalil Rhodes, but the Orange Wave still expect to be contenders.

Community News Group / Laura Amato

New-look Jefferson ready to defend title

By Laura Amato

They've got some big shoes to fill.

One year after Jefferson clinched its first Public Schools Athletic League Class AA championship in 62 years, the Orange Wave is back with a squad of fresh faces and question marks. There's only one thing this team is certain of — it wants to defend its title.

"We don't know yet who's the go-to guy and who we're going to put in new situations," Jefferson coach Lawrence

"Bud" Pollard said. "The regular season is to basically get you ready for the playoffs. My goal is to get playoff-qualified, win enough games, and get us in the postseason."

Jefferson graduated some of the program's biggest names last season — including Shamorie Ponds, Curtis Smith, and Rasheem Dunn — but this year's Orange Wave standouts are still ready to step up.

The Orange Wave hosted the annu-

al Jefferson Hersh Tip-Off Classic last weekend and will also compete in the Brooklyn Bridge Classic, the Wheeler High Tournament of Champions, and the New Heights Invitational this season. Pollard isn't expecting his squad to win every one of these games. In fact, he expects some bumps in the road, but if Jefferson can consistently compete, it will only help prepare the team for a deep postseason run.

Continued on Page 46

Awards

Continued from page 45

Thompson matched Bolt's feat by also winning the 100m and 200 golds in Rio.

The Jamaica rose to prominence as part of the gold medal-winning team in the 4x100 meters relay at the 2015 World Championships, where she also won a silver medal in the 200 meters.

At the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, Thompson completed a rare sprint double when she won gold in the 100 meter and the 200 meter, becoming the first female sprinter to do so since Florence Griffith Joyner at the Seoul Olympics in 1988.

Thompson currently ranks as the fifth-fastest women ever in the 200 meters event.



Jamaica's Usain Bolt celebrates after winning gold in the men's 100-meter final during the athletics competitions of the 2016 Summer Olympics at the Olympic stadium in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Sunday, Aug. 14, 2016.

Associated Press / Lee Jin-man, File

Contract levy

By Azad Ali

The West Indies Cricket Board (WICB) has taken an unprecedented decision to impose a 20 percent levy on the contract fees of its Twenty20 cricketers playing in overseas domestic tournaments.

The WICB said in a statement that the revenue raised will be used to aid the development of players in the territories.

The statement said some of the funds will be disbursed as an incentive for territories to "expose new cricket talent."

The WICB proposed to take 20 percent of Twenty20 players' contract fees in exchange for a No-Objection Certificate to play in overseas Twenty20 tournaments.

The WICB said it has communicated its new policy to the CEO's and presidents of all ICC full members.

The statement says that so far India and Bangladesh have agreed to the release fees.

Insignia Sports, which manages all-rounders Kieron Pollard, Chris Gayle, Darren Sammy, Dwayne Bravo and some others, also plans to challenge the WICB plan.



Senior step-up: Jefferson guard Khalil Rhodes will be a key part of the Orange Wave's title defense this season, looking to build on the success the squad had last year.

Community News Group / Laura Amato

Jefferson aims to finish strong

Continued from page 45

"I'm not concerned with going 28-1 or going undefeated," he said. "If I can play a tough schedule, go .500, and make the playoffs, that can get us ready to make a run. That's what we're trying to do. These guys have got to be ready to play every night."

The key, as far as Pollard is concerned, rests on how much his players want it. And, right now, the Orange Wave want to set their own standard of excellence.

"The guys last season averaged 26 wins a year, and these new guys have got big shoes to fill," Pollard said. "A lot

of people are going to be licking their chops right now, because they won a lot of games and kicked a lot of butt, so a lot of people are going to want to get some kick-back on us."

Jefferson might not be ready to name its undisputed leaders quite yet, but the Orange Wave still boasts a core group of players that Pollard hopes will step up when they have to. Seniors Malachi Faison, Marques Watson, and Khalil Rhodes will all likely see solid minutes once the season gets underway.

Pollard is also anticipating some more options off the bench this winter — looking to try different players at different spots until something clicks.

"We've got some newcomers and some guys we moved up from junior varsity, but we've got a nice roster here — a good group of kids — and we're going to be a little deeper than last year," he said.

It's not going to be easy this season — Pollard knows that, and so do his players. He's reminded them every day in practice. Teams are gunning for Jefferson — hoping for another 62-year break between championships — but this team is adjusting to the weight of the bull's-eye on its collective back.

"We're just as good as everybody else," Pollard said. "We just want to finish strong. That's the key."

WICB disciplines Bravo

Continued from page 45

Bravo responded to Cameron's statement by tweeting the following message: "You have been failing 4 d last 4yrs. Y don't u resign and FYI I've neva been given an A contract, Big idiot@davec51".

Bravo was currently on tour of Zimbabwe, where he went to represent the West Indies in a Tri-nation series that also involves Sri Lanka.

He has been replaced by Jason Mohammed for the One-Day series of the tour.

Cameron responded by saying that Bravo's recent "poor" performances did not merit him receiving a higher

grade retainer contract.

Pointing to the player's "declining averages", the WICB president could not "reward poor performance" by offering a player a higher grade.

Cameron said Bravo's averages in the last two years have been declining, "so what do you do? Reward poor performance or do you encourage him to get better?"

Retainers comprise grades of A+, A, B+ B and C.

WICB has called on Bravo to remove the tweet and apologize for his actions, failure to do so could result "in further disciplinary action, including referral to the Board's disciplinary committee."



West Indies Darren Bravo.

Associated Press / Rajanish Kakade



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Terriers in dog house after disappointing tournament loss

By Laura Amato

This one is going to hurt for a while.

The St. Francis men's soccer team fell 1-0 to Dartmouth in double overtime of the opening round of the National Collegiate Athletic Association tournament on Nov. 17 — a disappointing end to an otherwise dominant season.

"I thought we played really well, but we just couldn't get enough offense tonight," Terriers coach Tom Giovatto said. "The defense was tremendous, and I thought we frustrated them [for much of the game]."

Matt Danilack notched the game-winning goal in the 104th minute of play on a cross from Alexander Marsh at the top of the box. The junior midfielder fired a low shot to the right corner of the goal, pushing the ball just out of the reach of Terriers goalkeeper Seth Erdman.

Dartmouth's offensive front brought pressure throughout the game, out-shooting St. Francis 13-5. But Erdman,

who started in place of the injured Roberto Bazzichetto, did his best to keep the Terriers (12-5-3) in the match. He finished with eight saves and, despite the final score, Giovatto was anything but disappointed in his keeper.

"Seth was sensational and kept us in the game with some terrific diving saves," he said. "Unfortunately there was nothing he could do on the game-winner. I'm proud of the way he performed for us tonight."

Both squads battled throughout the second half — combining for 10 total shots in the final 45 minutes of regulation. Salvatore Barone notched St. Francis' best chance with just over two minutes left on the clock — his third shot of the game — but his attempt missed the wide-open net and the Terriers were forced to play in the squad's second-straight overtime game.

St. Francis didn't get many opportunities on offense during extra time, failing to record a shot in either overtime peri-

od. Dartmouth keeper James Hickok was rarely tested during the postseason tilt, finishing with just one save — on Dominick Falanga's shot — in over 100 minutes of action.

"Ideally the best defense is to possess the ball and attack the other team, but when you're doing that, you have to be organized so you don't let them develop their attacks," Dartmouth coach Chad Riley said. "[Defenders] Ricardo Gomez and Wyatt Omsberg really helped us stay organized when we were on the attack, and that really helped keep it away from our own goal for a large portion of the game."

The Terriers were frustrated with the lack of offense and the late-game defensive breakdown — particularly after a season that was built on defensive dominance — but this year's St. Francis squad is still proud of everything the team accomplished. The group didn't give up a single goal in league play and clinched the program's third Northeast Conference title in



Keeping it close: Terriers goalkeeper Seth Erdman did his best to keep St. Francis in the game, racking up eight saves in the squad's 1-0 overtime loss to Dartmouth on Nov. 17.

St. Francis Athletics

four years with a 1-0 victory over Saint Francis (PA) on Nov. 13. And, looking forward to next season, the Terriers are anxious to build upon that success.

"We had a great season

and brought another championship to the school," Giovatto said. "It's disappointing now, but we'll look back and remember all of the great things that we accomplished."

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ARIES: Mar 21/Apr 20
Aries, step out of the limelight this week and let another person close to you shine. He or she needs the vote of confidence. Lend your support and offer any advice you can.

TAURUS: Apr 21/May 21
An impossible situation may prove less difficult than you initially expected, Taurus. Stick with your current path, and you can overcome the challenges ahead.

GEMINI: May 22/Jun 21
Gemini, your calendar is filled. Make the most of social situations and your chance to be the life of the party. There will be time to recharge your batteries later in the month.

CANCER: Jun 22/Jul 22
Cancer, certain things have been on your mind and you don't know how to reach a resolution. It may be best if you talk things over with a trusted friend.

LEO: Jul 23/Aug 23
Your specialized skills are called on in the workplace this week, Leo. Make the most of this opportunity to prove to your superiors just how much you are able capable of.

VIRGO: Aug 24/Sept 22
Sometimes others do not see things from your perspective, Virgo. It may take some convincing to get them to come around to your way of thinking. Exercise patience.

LIBRA: Sept 23/Oct 23
A family situation arises and you're asked to resolve it, Libra. You may need to step back and let things play out, but try your best to come to a decision that benefits all involved.

SCORPIO: Oct 24/Nov 22
Scorpio, this week is a great time to take a step back and regroup. Things have been hectic of late, and the chance to rest up and relax is just what the doctor ordered.

SAGITTARIUS: Nov 23/Dec 21
Put your family first this week, Sagittarius. You have been overwhelmed with professional responsibilities in recent weeks, but now it's time to reconnect with your loved ones.

CAPRICORN: Dec 22/Jan 20
Capricorn, you might need to save a little more before booking that dream vacation. You're on the cusp of your getaway; you just need to hammer out a few more financial details.

AQUARIUS: Jan 21/Feb 18
Aquarius, maintain the strictest confidence when a loved one discloses something to you this week. You're a source of strength for this person, and they trust you to remain silent.

PISCES: Feb 19/Mar 20
Continue to communicate openly and honestly with others, Pisces. It's the best way to get ahead and solidify existing relationships.

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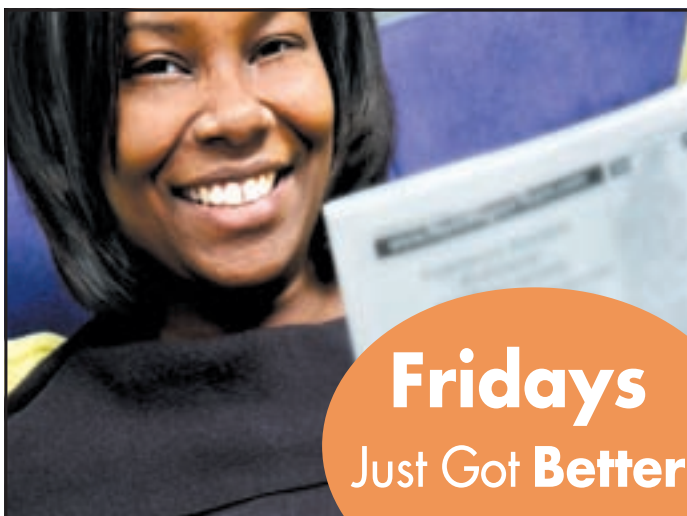
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copy of which may be
examined at the Office of
the Clerk, located at 141
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name is (First) Frederick
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you within the State of
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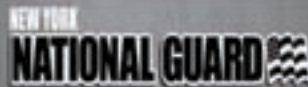
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